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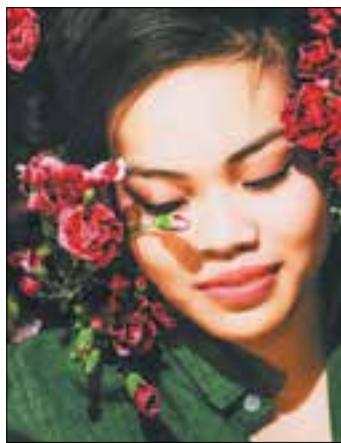
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theStranger

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COVER ART

Photo by Samantha Annette Okada Mesa

7

FORTNIGHT

What you missed if you've been escaping wildfires for the last two weeks. Plus: Which do you prefer, noodles or beef?

9

WHAT A LOSER!

Dino Rossi just got his ass handed to him for a *fourth* time.

by Rich Smith

11

TOXIC ENGINEERING

Developers are cleaning up our messes. By Nathalie Graham

13

FUTURE SEATTLE MUSIC SUPERSTAR

The ukulele-strumming, harmonica-blowing beatboxer Chong the Nomad is about to blow up the scene.

By Dave Segal

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY	17
BLUNT TALK	19
SAVAGE LOVE	21
THINGS TO DO	49
ART	50
PERFORMANCE	53
BOOKS & TALKS	56
MUSIC	59
FILM	72
FOOD & DRINK	75
LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN	78

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FORTNIGHT

EDITOR'S NOTE



JOHNNY SAMPSON

We need to clear up some confusion surrounding the piece in our last issue about juicing pot leaves. To be clear, we didn't fuck up writing this thing; our readers fucked up reading it. As Lester Black wrote, when you drink pot juice, you can't get high because you are only drinking THCA, not the closely related chemical THC. Only when you heat THC does it turn into THC, and that's what gets you high. Raw juice alone won't get you high. "BUT WHAT ABOUT EDIBLES!?" you illiterates kept e-mailing us. Well, dingus, just because that brownie you are shoving into your face isn't currently hot doesn't mean that its components weren't heated at one time. That's what happens in a fucking oven. It's also what happens when concentrates are made, concentrates that pot processors then cook with. It's called decarboxylation, asshats.

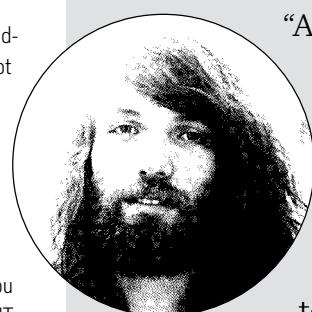
NOODLES OR BEEF?

Which do you prefer? We asked four Seattleites.

"I'll take beef, but only if it's beef tartare. I don't like my food cooked." —*Elise, Eastlake*



"Noodles. Right now, I'm on an all-carb diet. I fucking love farfalle." —*Sean, Rainier Valley*



"Are you kidding me? Noodles are terrible for the environment. Do you realize how much water it takes to produce one noodle? And the amount of methane exhausted during noodle production is worse than the greenhouse gases of all commercial airliners combined. Not a lot of people want to talk about this, but noodles are separated from their mothers and are transported to grocery stores in complete darkness." —*Geoffrey, Ballard*

"What's Poodles O'Keefe? Is that a new soccer bar?" —*Scott, Meadowbrook*



I, ANONYMOUS



STEVEN WEISSMAN

Hey, I'm new working here—so give me a break. Do you see me running in circles like a chicken with its head cut off? There was some confusion about vegetarian options when you'd both initially ordered dishes with meat. But neither of you was difficult, and all seemed well. I could have smiled more, I could have gotten down on my knees and blown glitter on your faces, I could have tried to read your minds and give you the most spectacular experience of your life. But I'm just a bartender. I had a hard day before coming to work. Next time, you should at least try to communicate your issue before writing "Fuck You" on a napkin and leaving it for me to find. I have no idea what I did wrong to prompt such a shitty note. Thanks for not stiffing me on the bill, though. And fuck you, too. **ANONYMOUS**

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him to Tennessee seems a little desperate, even for the guy who built statues of his own balls in Seattle.

Uncle Ike's pot shops started randomly testing for pesticides at its three Seattle weed stores. Of 10 products tested so far, two have been caught with **illegal amounts** of pesticides or bacteria. They've been taken off Uncle Ike's shelves. Washington is one of the only states that does not require mandatory pesticide testing on legal weed.

A weed company in **Sodo** won the state's first marijuana research license, giving it the right to grow and process pot and to partner with universities. An unsubstantiated rumor circulating on Twitter claimed the company's first project would be engineering a **pot brownie** that makes it impossible for you to see Donald Trump's face.

The **Seattle City Council** approved a new contract with the city's largest **police** union,

despite protests from the ACLU and the city's own Community Police Commission. Officers will now get a 17 percent raise (not controversial), and it will be harder to fire police officers when they fuck up (very controversial).

Kshama Sawant was the only council member to vote against the contract.



Stormy!

There are essentially **no Republican state legislators** left in King County after November's midterm elections. The only two Republicans remaining represent districts that only partially include a few lonely square miles out on the county's eastern fringes. That means even usually safe Republican suburbs like **Auburn** and **Federal Way** are sending only Democrats to Olympia. Does this mean we can't call Federal Way a shithole anymore?

Documentary filmmaker and onetime city council hopeful **Christopher Rufo** became the first candidate to drop out of the upcoming races for city hall. Rufo made the announcement after he and his family were

allegedly **harassed by activists**, which is probably for the best. If he can't handle that, how the hell is he going to handle Kshama?

Uncle Ike's is randomly testing for pesticides.

That massive **lumberyard fire** in North Queen Anne—which took a mere seven minutes from the first alarm to completely engulfing Gascoigne Lumber Co. and Northwest Millwork in flames, the largest conflagration in Seattle since 2010—was **officially ruled an arson** by investigators. They are basing that on evidence that includes video-surveillance footage from the scene. There was an estimated \$4.3 million in damage. No suspects yet.

A study from insurance company **Allstate** revealed that Seattle has some of the **worst drivers** in the nation, a finding that surprised approximately no one. ■



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CROUTON

What a Loser!

Dino Rossi just got his ass handed to him for a *fourth* time.

BY RICH SMITH

It's not every day you get to celebrate the complete and total failure of a millionaire. In the race to represent Washington's 8th Congressional District, former state senator Dino Rossi lost against Kim Schrier, a pediatrician and first-time Democratic candidate from Sammamish, by nearly 15,000 votes. It's one for the history books, and not just because a Democrat has never represented the 8th District in the US House of Representatives before.

I guess an enthusiastic endorsement from the *Seattle Times* (like Rossi got) only goes so

It's the first time in history a Democrat has won the district.

by 20 points. You could practically hear the Washington State GOP patting themselves on the back for recruiting Rossi to run for Congress this cycle. In their fantasies, that big blue wave was going to crash against the mighty rocks of the Rossi campaign and dissolve into nothingness.

Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha. Rossi didn't even carry his own fucking neighborhood(s). According to a precinct-level analysis from the *Seattle Times*, Schrier won 65 percent of the votes in Rossi's hometown of Sammamish. Rossi owns a house near the lake and another house near Soaring Eagle Regional Park. Schrier beat him by 8 points in the former neighborhood and by 18 points in the latter. He lost so bad that the kid he pays to mow his lawn probably can't even cut the grass with his chin up.

To lose against Schrier must sting with a special intensity. An early poll conducted by the House Majority PAC showed Rossi beating Schrier by five points in a general election matchup. The Democrats didn't put forth their strongest candidate, according to that poll, and Rossi *still* lost. But a poll isn't a campaign, and the exact opposite scenario than what was predicted ended up playing out after both sides spent millions of dollars on ads.

Ads in favor of Rossi included an anti-Semitic mailer distributed in the final days of the campaign showing Schrier, who is Jewish, fanning out tons of cash. Rossi ran as the guy who achieved "success in politics" by earnestly reaching across the aisle. But he was perfectly content to look the other way while the Washington State GOP, the group that paid for the anti-Semitic ads, appealed to the Republican base's worst instincts—all of which was in keeping with Rossi's history of supporting homophobic policy, anti-immigrant policy, and draconian health-care policy.

Rossi needs a new hobby. Maybe he should try painting? I hear it does wonders for the dark souls of Republican hacks. ■



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Toxic Engineering

Developers are cleaning up our messes.

BY NATHALIE GRAHAM

Montlake businesses Mont's Market and Jay's Cleaners occupy a spot on 24th Avenue East that used to be a Gull gas station. There were steel tanks underground that stored toxic substances. What no one knew until it was too late was that these tanks were leaking.

"Since the 1990s, there have been several underground storage tank requirements that are aimed at detecting leaks and preventing leaks," Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) public information officer Larry Altose told me. "When gas stations were started, there weren't such requirements. There wasn't any way to notice the tank was leaking until it was too late."

In 1989, right after voters in Washington passed a cleanup law called the Model Toxics Control Act, petroleum contamination was discovered at the Montlake Gull station. Somewhere between 4,000 and 6,000 gallons of gasoline had leaked into the soil and seeped into the groundwater.

After the cleanup process started, 900 cubic yards of contaminated soil were excavated. It wasn't until a new owner purchased the site in 1992 that the leaky tanks were removed. The DOE had supplied the new owner with a loan from the state, and a more thorough cleanup was done.

Yet during inspections in 2005 and 2017, according to the state, contamination remained: "gasoline, diesel, oil-range total petroleum hydrocarbons, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene."

Groundwater contamination can have detrimental effects on the environment. If toxic substances get too far into the groundwater, they can eventually link up with a body of water somewhere else. Gasoline spreading under buildings can also release vapors that affect people aboveground.

"The Montlake site is operated a bit different than a voluntary cleanup program because we run it in the manner of a formal site," Altose said. "Formal sites are generally sites that are very significant with contamination and require public comment."

The cleanup will cost the DOE an esti-

mated \$2.2 million. "It has just been a matter of allocating staff time and securing the funding," Altose said. "We expect to include this in our requests for funding from the legislature. Assuming we're able to secure funding, we would move forward next year."

The mixed funding agreement the DOE entered into on the Montlake site in the 1990s isn't par for the course these days. Typically, gas-station cleanups are done independently and only come to the DOE for approval.

Who conducts those cleanups? Developers.

At gas station sites, developers are environmental stewards.

"Essentially, the land in some places is worth so much that a gas station is not the highest and best use of the land," said Al Dams, chief deputy assessor for King County.

Among hot areas of redevelopment in Seattle right now are former gas-station lots in South Lake Union and Denny Triangle. Those sites may have undergone partial cleanups while they were still functioning gas stations, but new buyers demolish everything and conduct full cleanups themselves, in part because lenders and investors do not want to have liability problems.

"When there's an economic boom and there's a lot of real-estate development, it's actually good for the environment," Altose said. "It's kinda cool that it's going on."

We all know the city is changing right under our feet, largely at the hands of developers, but not all that change is bad. In the case of toxic sites like gas stations, developers are environmental stewards who bear the costs of cleanup themselves. And after these sites are cleaned up, new environmental standards are enforced. As Altose put it, "We might not see this type of cleanup in the future." Because we won't have to. ■

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NATHALIE GRAHAM

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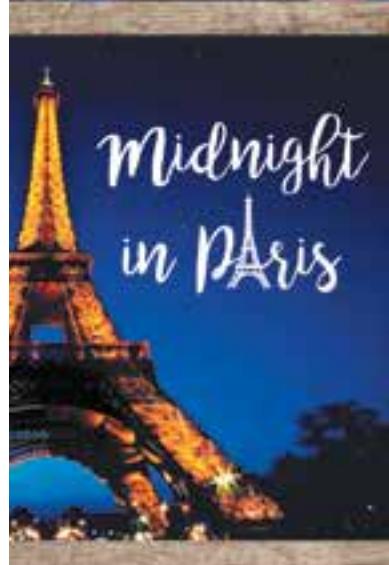


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Future Seattle Music Superstar

The ukulele-strumming, harmonica-blowing beatboxer Chong the Nomad is about to blow up the scene.

BY DAVE SEGAL

PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA ANNETTE OKADA MESA

While working as a line cook at the ramen restaurant Kizuki, the 22-year-old Seattle producer/DJ named Chong the Nomad had a brilliant idea. She decided to record mundane kitchen sounds—ladles hitting vats, chopsticks hitting bowls, door knocks, coworker grunts—and then use the raw samples to make music. The track was intended to promote an upcoming gig. But the result—an astounding, frolicking, dis-

torted-bass-heavy dance track she released last month on Twitter—revealed her unique resourcefulness. This was no mere collection of odd recorded sounds. It was a magical sonic transformation.

It reminded me of the brilliant set she performed at Capitol Hill Block Party a few months earlier. As anyone lucky enough to see that performance remembers, Chong the Nomad (aka Alda Agustiano) came off like a hyperactive Janet Jackson on that hot July

evening. In between bursts of dancing and jumping, she micromanaged a laptop into producing a hybrid of R&B, trap, and wonkily funky EDM. But it was when she started strumming a ukulele, and then simultaneously played harmonica and beatboxed—all while wearing an orange T-shirt emblazoned with the blunt phrase I FEEL GOOD—that Agustiano really overturned expectations. Against the bad news of the world at large, she radiated an almost militant will to exuberance.

It allowed the crowd to forget everything else for a while. Any new artist who can get 90 percent of a festival crowd dancing in 82-degree weather deserves devotion. After her performance, Agustiano took a crowd selfie and the Block Party attendees whooped as if she were Ms. Jackson.

Despite her commanding feats at the Block Party, Agustiano says she gets horrible stage fright. Adding live production to her DJing has been “kind of terrifying,” but she plans to

make her show bigger with each date.

"The beatbox/harmonica shtick was something I've done since high school. I picked up beatboxing around middle school," she says. "I got made fun of a lot. I mean, you're a 12-year-old kid making fart noises out of your mouth, so you're going to be made fun of." Agustiano got the last laugh, though, when she won her school's talent show doing exactly that routine.

A queer woman of Indonesian descent, Agustiano grew up in a musical family, surrounded by the music of Billie Holiday, Stevie Wonder, Earth, Wind & Fire, Michael Jackson, and Prince. "I always tell people, my mom taught me how to sing and my dad taught me how to listen."

We're in her sparsely appointed Capitol Hill studio apartment, the same place she makes her music, when she says this. A set of golf clubs stands in the corner; Agustiano has been playing since she was 5.

She spent the first 10 years of her life in Kent before her family moved to several places on the East Coast. They returned to the Seattle area when she was 16. Around then, Agustiano and some friends downloaded and began messing around with FL Studio, the music-production software. Then she got into DJing at Kentlake High School for its breakdance club. That's also when she began to lose interest in playing piano for her school jazz band and to love dance music.

Coinciding with Agustiano's embracing of dance music was her Tumblr, which bore the URL chongthenomad, named after "a minor character that was supposed to be the stoner, hippie dude" from the series *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. "He held a lute and sang these silly songs to them all day, bugging them. I was like, 'Oh, that's kind of me.'" So Agustiano took the handle for her musical persona. She was also enamored of *Legend of Korra*, and would sample some of the voices and catch-phrases uttered by the characters and remix them—what she calls "weird, nerdy edits and covers of certain nerdy music." She posted one, and overnight it inspired 4,000 notes. "I was like, 'Oh, I could do this.'"

After high school, Agustiano studied classical and contemporary music and film composition at Cornish College of the Arts, gaining particular inspiration from professors Janice Giteck and Jarrad Powell, who also heads the Gamelan Pacifica ensemble. She credits them and other instructors for inspiring her to look "outside of the box" and turning her on to unconventional musicians/composers such as Iannis Xenakis, Brian Eno, Frank Zappa, Steve Reich, and Sofia Gubaidulina. "When I listen to crazy art, it triggers something in me to move or to think or to write. If I can do that, thumbs-up to me."

Agustiano harbored hopes of moving into the film industry, but about midway through her studies, she realized that electronic-music production had become an all-consuming passion, so she's back-burnered movie scoring for now.

Her Cornish experience "opened a lot of doors to me and what I can do," Agustiano says. "I wrote a string quartet that's still stuck with me to this day as probably one of the craziest things I've written, and I wouldn't have had that if I didn't go to Cornish."

While Giteck expanded and expedited Agustiano's compositional processes ("She opened this side of me that I never thought could ever be shown"), Powell imbued in her his prodigious knowledge of gamelan

and electronic music. In her senior year, she began to take beat making much more seriously, and after graduating in 2017, she began hitting the live/DJ circuit in earnest.

Agustiano admits she's "harder on myself than I need to be." She's always been a hungry self-starter who's compared herself to others. But when she got to Cornish, she suddenly "wasn't the one laptop music geek anymore."

onstage," Santiago says. "She's an artist, not just a beat maker." He not only placed her on BuildStrong's stage at Upstream, he became her manager.

Another prominent Chong the Nomad champion has been Gary Campbell, head of the crucial Seattle record label Crane City Music. He noticed a dearth of attention to non-male hiphop artists and started to



A queer woman of Indonesian descent, she makes her music in a studio apartment.

In the spring of 2017, Agustiano was preparing for her senior recital when she saw an ad for the BeatMatch beat-making competition at Vera Project, which was judged by Sango and Macklemore's right-hand man, Ryan Lewis. She entered after seeing the winner would earn a slot at Upstream Festival—her dream gig. Working on her final academic project while readying for the competition resulted in perhaps Agustiano's most intense week ever. "I was just on panic mode the entirety of that last semester, but I like to think of that time as one of the best of my life."

Agustiano had some doubts she'd get into the competition, but she made the cut—the only woman among 16 combatants. She lost in the second round to prominent Seattle producer Jamie Blake, whom she respects, so she wasn't too distraught.

While that loss was a letdown, the event had a bright side: BuildStrong Music Group's Austin Santiago witnessed her performance and loved it. "I knew that she had something special: the rhythm, the melodies, her vibe

Love Memo is slightly more subdued than the Chong the Nomad live experience, but it's still a varied, funky groovefest, redolent in poignant melodies and disorienting atmospheres. Hybridity in music often leads to innovation, and that ethos drives Agustiano's process. Still, these are more low-lit joints for intimate encounters than raucous club bangers. With track titles like "Lip Bite," "Docile," "Chest Pain," and "Enchant Me," as well as spoken-word interludes detailing personal confessions, *Love Memo* has a bedroom-auteur emo quality rare for the local hiphop/EDM scenes.

For that record, Agustiano asked close friends, all queer people of color, "What is the one thing you've always wanted to say to someone but never had the chance to?" I was going through [relationship troubles], but I was too scared. I wanted to let all the new things that I learned that year and where I was at musically and emotionally to portray my words and just let other people fill in the blanks. Which they did.

"I was listening to a lot of Norah Jones. 'Chest Pain' has a Norah Jones sample. It was just me being single for the first time during a pretty shitty winter. I had a lot of time alone to reflect, and it all came colliding together on *Love Memo*." Jones's coffeehouse soul-pop is an unlikely inspiration for Chong the Nomad, but it's a tribute to Agustiano that she morphs the snippet into a grippingly eerie motif.

Agustiano says that the solitude and heartache she experienced helped her to produce that record, leading to one of her most fecund creative sprees. In conversation, I wonder aloud if she has to go through those tribulations every time she wants to make a record, and she laughs and says she hopes not.

Love Memo was just this chaos in me that I had to purge, and I saw things a lot more clearly after. It was good."

Deviating from its predecessor, the single that followed *Love Memo*, "Ghosts in the Shower," sounds like it's geared for club DJs, albeit very adventurous ones. Was Agustiano in a totally different mind state when she made "Ghosts"?

"Oh, god yeah, like a flip-of-the-switch type of thing. I wrote that right after Sasquatch!, and I was exhausted after my day job, and I was in my bathroom just zoning out."

He decided to release a split album with Chong the Nomad and Stas THEE Boss.

Campbell continues: "It's the mission of Crane City Music to promote distinctive new voices that are underrepresented in mainstream hiphop, and so this vinyl, featuring the perspectives of two queer women of color who are making beats and writing introspective songs about heartbreak, is a perfect fit for the label. Neither *Love Memo* nor Stas THEE Boss's *S'WOMEN* had ever been professionally mixed and mastered, so this release gave everyone the opportunity to properly release their music with the production they'd always intended.

"Alda is a talent where you want to get behind everything she releases. While working on the vinyl, she released the single 'Pom-pelmo' as a one-off track, and it sounded so fresh, I proposed squeezing it onto the vinyl as a bonus track—which we did. In August, when she dropped 'Ghosts in the Shower' as another single, I strongly had to resist the temptation to throw manufacturing into disarray to get this track on there, too. I can't wait to hear what she puts out next."

Exuding ambition, she wants to release three singles by next spring, and "try to build off that momentum into festival season, and get some gigs out of state." That also involves working with Seattle diva Parisalexa and a R&B singer from Detroit whom Agustiano prefers not to name until details are solidified.

Judging by her output so far, she's shown the ability to delve into dark and strange electronic territory while also flaunting the requisite rhythmic buoyancy and tonal radiance to rock parties for hiphop heads and EDM aficionados. With her deep academic background and film-composing studies, Agustiano has the potential to spring into many directions. It wouldn't be surprising to see her lace up some beats for Nicki Minaj or soundtrack a horror flick.

Agustiano's other goal is to make people dance and feel. "I always feel liberated when I go out, when I dance with friends. I want to contribute to that. It's such a blessing to dance and listen to music and lose your fucking mind. I don't think there are many chances in life that you can do that. That's what I want to do with my music right now." ■

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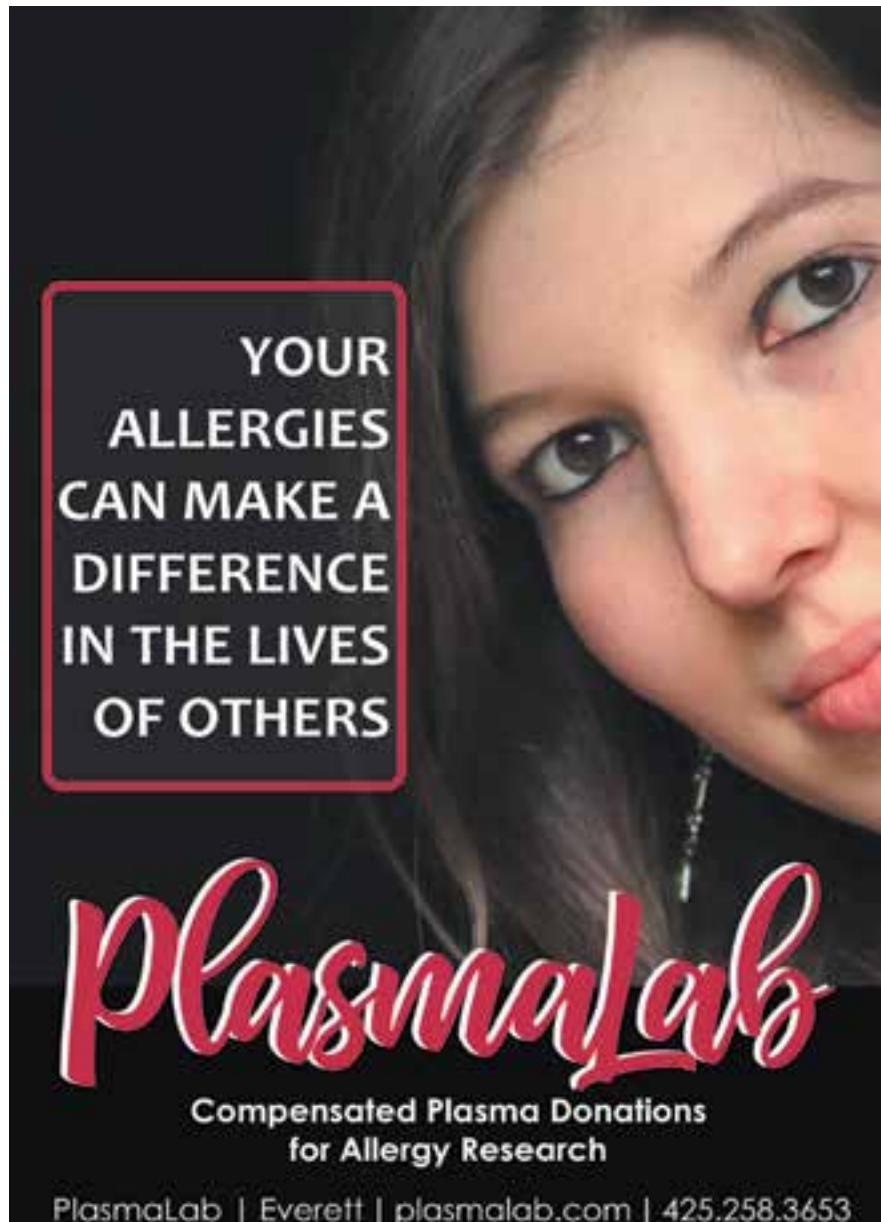
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Free Will Astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

November 21-27

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): In his autobiography *On the Move*, neurologist Oliver Sacks praised his friend Jerry's curiosity and knowledge. "Jerry has one of the most spacious, thoughtful minds I have ever encountered, with a vast base of knowledge of every sort," wrote Sacks, "but it is a base under continual questioning and scrutiny." So willing was Jerry to question and reevaluate his own assumptions that Sacks said he had "seen his friend suddenly stop in mid-sentence and say, 'I no longer believe what I was about to say.'" That's the gold standard to which I hope you will aspire in the coming weeks, Aries. As bright and articulate as you'll be, you will have an even higher calling to expand your mind through continual questioning.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): In recent years, a few pioneers have gotten microchips implanted under their skin. These technological marvels enable them to open doors and turn on lights with merely a wave of their hand, or receive up-to-the-minute readouts on what's transpiring inside their bodies. Now an additional frontier has risen: people using do-it-yourself kits to experiment on their own DNA. For example, some have tweaked their genes so their bodies create more muscle than is natural. I would love for you to change yourself around in the coming weeks, Taurus, but not in these particular ways. I'd rather see you do subtle psychological and spiritual work. The astrological omens suggest it's a favorable time for focused self-transformation.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Are you smart enough to take advantage of the fact that your best relationships would benefit from bursts of innovative energy in the coming weeks? Are you brave enough to banish the ghost that still haunts your romantic life? Do you have the moxie to explore frontiers with collaborators who play fair and know how to have fun? Will you summon the curiosity and initiative to learn new strategies about how to enhance your approach to intimacy? I'll answer those questions on your behalf: yes, yes, yes, and yes.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Would you agree with me that there are both boring, tiresome problems and fun, interesting problems? If so, read on. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're at a fork in your path where you could either get further involved with a boring, tiresome problem or else a fun, interesting one. (I think you'll have to engage with one or the other.) Of course I'm rooting for you to proactively wrangle with the fun, interesting one. Here's timely inspiration from author John W. Gardner: "We are continually faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems."

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22): The Jharia coalfield in Eastern India is a 110-square-mile reserve of underground coal. In some places, it's on fire and has been burning for more than a hundred years. This isn't a good thing. It's wasteful and causes pollution. But now I'll ask you to put aside that scenario and imagine a more benevolent kind of steadily burning fire: a splendor in your soul that never stops radiating warmth and light, that draws from an inexhaustible source of fuel, that is a constant source of strength and courage and power. I'm happy to tell you that the coming months will be a favorable time to establish and nurture this eternal flame.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22): Marilyn Monroe, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Franklin D. Roosevelt were direct descendants of the pilgrims who sailed from England to the New World on the famous *Mayflower* ship in 1620. I, on the other hand, am a direct descendant of a 19th-century Slovakian coal miner who toiled in the underground darkness. What about you, Virgo? Now would be a rich and provocative time to reconnect with your roots, to remember where your people originated, to explore the heritage that served as the matrix from which you sprouted.

LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22): According to researchers at two Italian universities who study animal behavior, chickens can do arithmetic. The birds don't even need to be trained; the skill seems to be innate. (Read details here: tinyurl.com/ChickensDoMath.) I'm wondering whether chickens born under the sign of Libra might even be able to do algebra in the coming weeks. According to my assessment of the astrological omens, the mental acuity of many Libran creatures will be at a peak. How will you use your enhanced intelligence?

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): In March 2005, far more people than usual won big money in a regional Powerball lottery in the United States. The average for each draw is four winners, but on this special occasion, 110 players were awarded at least \$100,000 and as much as \$500,000. The reason for the anomaly seemed to have been an oracle that appeared in a number of widely distributed fortune cookies. It provided five of the six winning numbers. Inspired by this crazy stroke of good fortune, and in accordance with the favorable financial omens now coming to bear on you, I hereby offer you six numbers to use as your lucky charms. Will they help you win a game of chance? I can't be sure. At the very least, they will titillate and massage the part of your psyche that is magnetic to wealth. Here they are: 37, 16, 58, 62, 82, 91.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21): "You have two ways to live your life," writes spiritual teacher Joseph Vitale, "from memory or inspiration." In other words, you can take your cues about how to live your life from what happened in the past, or else you can make your decisions based on what you're excited to do and become in the future. According to my analysis, the next 10 months will be an excellent time for you to fully embrace the latter approach. And it all starts now.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 19): You've always got more help available than you imagine, and that's especially true these days. People you know and people you don't know may come to your assistance and offer extra support—especially if you meet two conditions: (1) you sincerely believe you deserve their assistance and support, (2) you clearly ask for their assistance and support. Now here's more good news about the help that's available: Whether or not you believe in spiritual beings, they, too, are primed to offer blessings and resources. If you don't believe in their existence, I invite you to pretend you do and see what happens. If you do believe in them, formulate clear requests for what you'd like them to offer you.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18): In one of his poems, Arthur Rimbaud extolled the exquisite evenings when the mist soaked his face as he strolled and he sipped that heavenly dew till he was drunk. Was he speaking literally or metaphorically? Probably both, if I know Rimbaud. Anyway, Aquarius, I'd love for you to engage in similar exploits. What are some natural adventures that might intoxicate you? What simple pleasures may alter your consciousness, nudging you free of its habits? Meditate with sweet abandon on how to free yourself through the power of play and the imagination.

PISCES (FEB 19-MARCH 20): It's illegal to hunt animals in Kenya. But members of a certain tribe circumvent the law to provide food for their families. As three or more men wander out on the savanna, they wait for hungry lions to kill a wildebeest or other creature. Then they stride toward the feasting beasts in a calm show of force until the predators run away in confusion. The brave scavengers swoop in and swiftly remove a portion of the wildebeest, then coolly walk away, leaving plenty for the lions when they return to their meal. I bring this scene to your attention, Pisces, because I suspect that in the coming weeks you will have similar levels of courage and poise as you go after what you want.

Homework: How could you change yourself in order to get more of the love you want? Go to freewillastrology.com and click "Email Rob."

November 28-December 4

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Every year, the bird known as the arctic tern experiences two summers and enjoys more daylight than any other animal. That's because it regularly makes a long-distance journey from the arctic to the antarctic and back again. Let's designate this hardy traveler as your inspirational creature for the next 10 months. May it help animate you to experiment with brave jaunts that broaden and deepen your views of the world. I don't necessarily mean you should literally do the equivalent of circumnavigating the planet. Your expansive adventures might take place mostly in inner realms or closer to home.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): When the American Civil War began in 1861, the United States fractured. Four years later, the union was technically restored when the northern states defeated the southern states. At that time, African American slavery became illegal everywhere for the first time since the country's birth decades earlier. But there was a catch. The southern states soon enacted laws that mandated racial segregation and ensured that African Americans continued to suffer systematic disadvantages. Is there a comparable issue in your personal life? Did you at some time in the past try to fix an untenable situation only to have it sneak back in a less severe but still debilitating form? The coming weeks will be an excellent time to finish the reforms, to enforce a thorough and permanent correction.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Does an elusive giant creature with a long neck inhabit the waters of Loch Ness in Northern Scotland? Alleged sightings have been reported since 1933. Most scientists dismiss the possibility that "Nessie" actually exists, but there are photos, films, and videos that provide tantalizing evidence. A government-funded Scottish organization has prepared contingency plans just in case the beast does make an unambiguous appearance. In that spirit, and in accordance with astrological omens, I recommend that you prepare yourself for the arrival in your life of intriguing anomalies and piquant mysteries. Like Nessie, they're nothing to worry about, but you'll be better able to deal gracefully with them if you're not totally taken by surprise.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Does moss really "eat" rocks, as Cancerian author Elizabeth Gilbert attests in her novel *The Signature of All Things*? Marine chemist Martin Johnson says yes. Moss really does break down and release elements in solid stone. Gilbert adds, "Given enough time, a colony of moss can turn a cliff into gravel, and turn that gravel into topsoil." Furthermore, this hardy plant can grow virtually everywhere: in the tropics and frozen wastes, on tree bark and roofing slate, on sloth fur and snail shells. I propose that we make moss your personal symbol of power for now, Cancerian. Be as indomitable, resourceful, and resilient as moss.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22): Let's shout out a big "THANKS!" and "HALLELUJAH!" to the enzymes in our bodies. These catalytic proteins do an amazing job of converting the food we eat into available energy. Without them, our cells would take forever to turn any particular meal into the power we need to walk, talk, and think. I bring this marvel to your attention, Leo, because now is a favorable time to look for and locate metaphorical equivalents of enzymes— influences and resources that will aid and expedite your ability to live the life you want to live.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22): "Every dreamer knows that it is entirely possible to be homesick for a place you've never been to, perhaps more homesick than for familiar ground," writes author Judith Thurman. I'm guessing you will experience this feeling in the coming weeks. What does it mean if you do? It may be your deep psyche's way of nudging you to find an energizing new sanctuary. Or perhaps it means you should search for fresh ways to feel peaceful and well-grounded. Maybe it's a prod to push you outside your existing comfort zone so you can expand your comfort zone.

LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22): Venice, Italy, consists of 118 small islands that rise from a shallow lagoon. A network of 443 bridges keeps them all connected. But Venice isn't the world champion of bridges. The American city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, holds that title, with 446. I nominate these two places to be your inspirational symbols in the coming weeks. It's time for you to build new metaphorical bridges and take good care of your existing ones.

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): To aid and support your navigation through this pragmatic phase of your astrological cycle, I have gathered counsel from three productive pragmatists. First is author Helen Keller: She said she wanted to accomplish great and noble things, but her "chief duty" was "to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble." Second, author George Orwell believed that "to see what is in front of one's nose" requires never-ending diligence. Finally, author Pearl S. Buck testified that she didn't wait around until she was in the right mood before beginning her work. Instead, she invoked her willpower to summon the necessary motivation.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21): Blackjack is a card game popular in gambling casinos. In the eternal struggle to improve the odds of winning big money, some blackjack players work in teams. One person secretly counts the cards as they're dealt and assesses what cards are likely to come up next. Another person gets subtle signals from the card-counting teammate and makes the bets. A casino in Windsor, Ontario, pressed charges against one blackjack team, complaining that this tactic was deceptive and dishonest. But the court decided in the team's favor, ruling that the players weren't cheating but simply using smart strategy. In the spirit of these blackjack teams, Sagittarius, and in accordance with astrological omens, I urge you to better your odds in a "game" of your choice by using strategy that is as good as cheating but isn't actually cheating.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 19): What has become of the metaphorical seeds you planted around your last birthday? Have your intentions flourished? Have your dreams blossomed? Have your talents matured? Have your innocent questions evolved into more penetrating questions? Be honest and kind as you answer these inquiries. Be thoughtful and bighearted as you take inventory of your ability to follow through on your promises to yourself. If people are quizzical about how much attention you're giving yourself during this time of taking stock, inform them that your astrologer has told you that December is Love Yourself Better Month.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18): If you want to play the drinking game called Possum, you and your friends climb up into a tree with a case of beer and start drinking. As time goes by, people get so drunk, they fall out of the tree. The winner is the last one left in the tree. I hope you won't engage in this form of recreation anytime soon—nor in any other activity that even vaguely resembles it. The coming weeks should be a time of calling on favors, claiming your rewards, collecting your blessings, and graduating to the next level. I trust your policy will be no trivial pursuits, no wasted efforts, no silly stunts.

PISCES (FEB 19-MARCH 20): In his song "Happy Talk," Academy Award-winning lyricist Oscar Hammerstein II offered this advice: "You gotta have a dream. If you don't have a dream, how you gonna have a dream come true?" Where do you stand in this regard, Pisces? Do you in fact have a vivid, clearly defined dream? And have you developed a strategy for making that dream come true? The coming weeks will be an excellent time to hone in on what you really want and hone your scheme for manifesting it. (P.S. Keep in mind Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's idea: "A goal without a plan is just a wish.")

Homework: Hug yourself as you tell yourself your biggest secret.

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A collage of various cannabis-related advertisements and a map of Seattle. The top section features a map of Seattle with numbered locations 1 through 37, each pointing to a different business. The businesses include: 1. Tweed Cannabis, 2. RETAILERS | TOURS | LODGING | KUSHTOURISM.COM, 3. kush TOURISM, 4. Herb(n) Elements, 5. GREENSIDE RECR, 6. THE JOINT SEATTLE, 7. Hashtag CANNABIS FREMONT, 8. The First! Cannabis City, 9. GANJA GODDESS, 10. Bakerée, 11. MARIJUANA, 12. WESTERN HIGH, 13. CLUTCH, 14. A GREENER TODAY, 15. BUDDY'S CANNABIS, 16. Emerald HAZE, 17. STAR BUDS, 18. Hashtag CANNABIS REDMOND, 19. FREMONT REDMOND, 20. Cascadia GARDENS, 21. KUSH21, 22. 365 RECREATIONAL CANNABIS, 23. BURien, 24. 365 RECREATIONAL CANNABIS, 25. GREENSIDE RECR, 26. Hashtag CANNABIS REDMOND, 27. FREMONT REDMOND, 28. #KeepingCascadiaGreen, 29. gardensofcascadia.com, 30. GREENSIDE RECR, 31. GREENSIDE RECR, 32. GREENSIDE RECR, 33. GREENSIDE RECR, 34. BURien, 35. BURien, 36. VALTON, 37. GREENSIDE RECR.



Blunt Talk

BY LEILANI POLK



ASHLEY WONG

How to Make a Dank Holiday Dinner

I've endured my fair share of excruciating holiday meals. There was a several-years-long stepsister freeze-out during which she ignored me so hard, I might as well have been a mashed-potatoes-eating ghost. There were multicourse dinners with conservative (ex) in-laws that devolved into political shouting matches. And you should have seen me navigating the clashing personalities of my estranged parents and moderating their vague antipathy for each other while simultaneously trying to referee, entertain, and cook for them.

Yup, family meals can be rough. Especially if you're not stoned. And while a toke before you go will get you through that first hour, what you really need is some cannabis in your belly. That's a high that lasts. Can you enjoy a turkey dinner and get high all in one fell swoop? Yes, yes you can.

You can find recipes online for making a cannabis turkey, all of which involve rubbing infused butter under the skin, basting and/or injecting the bird with infused butter throughout its roasting, and/or using some flower as part of the sage-rosemary-thyme mix for extra green flavor. But none of these are great ways to make a dank holiday dinner. Because you're cooking your turkey for several hours at a moderate temperature (more than 300 degrees), there's a pretty good chance, if you use any of the above methods, that your THC will lose its potency, if it doesn't get completely vaporized altogether before the turkey is done. For the very same reason, figuring out dosage is a crapshoot.

The solution? Gravy, bitches.

First, pick up a copy of *Cannabis & the Art*

of Infusion

, an elevated cookbook by chef Ricky Flickenger. He has THE BEST recipe for making infused butter using kief—it takes no more than 30 minutes, the smell and taste of weed is minimal to nonexistent. There are also instructions on how to decarb the kief to activate the THC and how to do the math to figure out the dosage.

So don't put the weed right on or into the

Family meals can be rough. Especially if you're not stoned.

turkey. Roast your turkey however you normally would and then collect the drippings immediately upon taking it out—you'll be using them for your infused gravy.

Next, make a roux with your infused butter—generally, 1/3 cup butter, 1/3 cup all-purpose flour (an equal flour-to-fat ratio) or a gluten-free flour blend (Bob's Red Mill GF all-purpose baking flour is a good one; you can also use cornstarch). Then once the roux starts thickening, add between one and two cups of drippings and turkey stock (extra stock will make up for any lack in drippings), heating it on medium heat (you want to keep it below 200 degrees) and stirring for 5 to 10 minutes.

Voilà! You have your infused gravy. Pour it on your turkey, pour it on your mashed potatoes, or eat it with a spoon—it's up to you!

Cannabis & the Art of Infusion also includes recipes for a prime rib roast, mashed potatoes, cranberry mascarpone tarts with dark chocolate, and various other sweet and savory treats. Why stop with gravy when you could make an entirely infused holiday meal? And then don't invite any relatives! Now that's what I call festive. ■

Happy Danksgiving!

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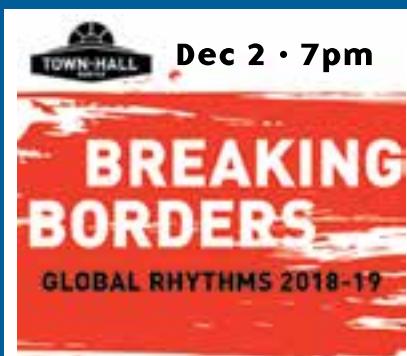
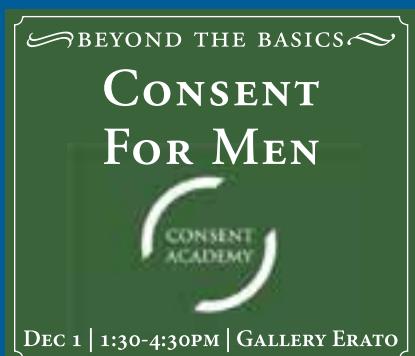
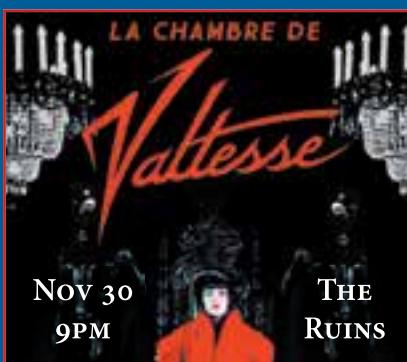
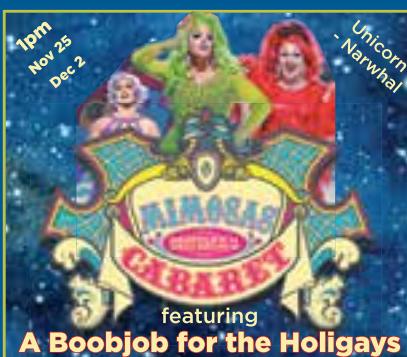
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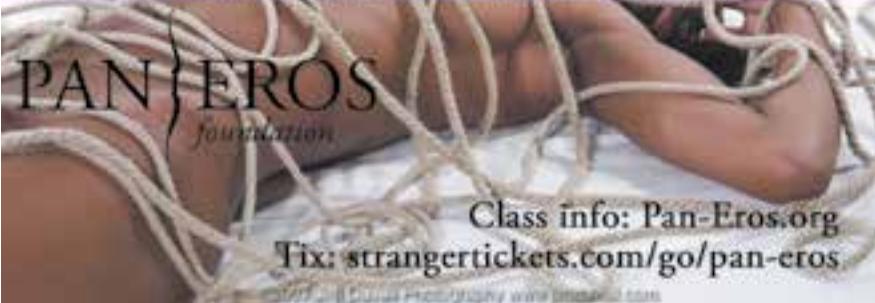


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Savage Love

BY DAN SAVAGE

Stressfest

I'm a recently divorced single mom and full-time student. I'm really beginning to hurt financially and have decided to start working as an escort. I am at a point of great emotional stability, happiness, and confidence—all reasons that led to my decision—and I'm surrounded by people who love me and won't judge me. (Not that I will be telling most of them.) I've been seeing a man who I like, but I've made it clear that I am not committed to him and can see him only once a week. I've explained that I don't think I can ever be monogamous and I do not want a relationship. He has struggled with this and told me early on he was in love with me. We have AMAZING sex, and I think this causes him to have a hard time understanding why I don't want a relationship. I do not want to tell him I am escorting. I feel the fewer people who know, the better. And I don't know him that well, as I have been "seeing" him for only six months. I know he would want to know, and a huge part of me feels that the right thing to do is to be honest with him if I am going to continue seeing him. I also know that cutting him loose would hurt and confuse him, especially without being able to give him a reason. How do I handle this? What is the right thing to do? My site goes live in three days, and what's keeping me up at night is not how best to verify clients, it's what to do about the man in my life who I respect and love, even if I am not in love with him.

New To Escorting

Let's set the escorting issue aside for a moment. You don't want the same things (he wants monogamy and a defined relationship, you don't want any of that shit), you don't feel for him the way he feels for you (he's in love, you're not), and you're a busy single mom and full-time student—all perfectly valid reasons to end a relationship, NTE. You aren't obligated to tell him that something you were thinking about doing but haven't yet done, i.e., escorting, factored into your decision to cut him loose.

While I definitely think people have a right to know if their partners are escorts, I don't think people have an absolute right to know if their partners were escorts. So if the sex is really good, and you think there's a chance you could one day feel as strongly for him as he does for you, and you're planning to escort only until you get your degree, NTE, you could tell him you want to take a break. Explain to him that you don't have the bandwidth for a boyfriend just now—kid, school, work—but you're open to dating him after you're out of school if he's still single and still interested.

I'm a 30-year-old single monogamist and I recently realized I'm bisexual. I feel much happier. Except I recently crossed a line with a very close friend of mine, a man I'll admit to having some romantic feelings for. After he broke up with his ex, I started getting random late-night text messages from him. And a cou-

ple weeks ago, we hooked up sans penetration. We acknowledged that we both have feelings but neither of us is in a good place. He's still dealing with the end of his LTR, and I am only just coming out as bisexual. I love this person and our friendship is important to me, but I can't stop thinking about the possibility of us being together. I'm confused by the timing and I wonder if this is real or just something I've allowed to distract me—or both! Also, what would this mean for my bisexuality? I've been to this rodeo before—meaning opposite-sex relationships—but what about the part of me I haven't fully explored?

Between Every Thorn Solitude Yearns



JOE NEWTON

You describe yourself as a monogamist—so, yeah, entering into a committed relationship with this man would prevent you from exploring your bisexuality. And the timing feels off: He may be on the rebound, and you're still coming to terms with your bisexuality. So don't enter into a committed relationship with him, BETSY, at least not yet. Date him casually and keep hooking up with him, with the understanding—with the explicit and fully verbalized and mutually consented to understanding—that you will be "exploring" your bisexuality, i.e., you'll be getting out there and eating some pussy.

I'm a 37-year-old woman married for eight years to a wonderful man. We're happy and GGG to the point where his kinks have become my kinks and vice versa. However, he loves anal sex and I cannot do it. No matter how much lube we use or how slowly we go, it's not just uncomfortable, it's red-hot-poker-in-my-ass painful. Can you give me any concrete, practical advice to get to a point where I can enjoy anal?

Beyond Uncomfortable Tushy Trauma

P.S. Do some women actually enjoy anal? After my experiences, I find that really hard to believe.

If you're still interested in exploring anal after all those red-hot-poker-in-your-ass painful experiences—and you are by no means obligated to explore any further—focus on anal stimulation, BUTT, not anal penetration. Try rimming, try a vibrator pressed against your anus (not shoved into it), try running his lubed-up dick up and down your crack (across your anus, not into your anus), and try all of these things during masturbation, vaginal penetration, and oral sex. Having a few dozen orgasms—or a few hundred—while your anus's sensitive nerve endings are pleasurable engaged could create a positive association between anal stimulation and sexual pleasure.

It's going to take some time to create a positive association powerful enough to supplant the negative association you have now—an association with echoes of regicide (google "Edward II and red hot poker")—so your husband shouldn't expect to get his dick back into your butt anytime soon, if he ever will at all. Some people, for reasons physiological or psychological or both, just can't experience pleasure during anal intercourse. If you're one of those people, BUTT, your husband will just have to grieve and move on.

P.S. I find it really hard to believe that a woman could possibly enjoy, say, a Donald Trump rally. But some women do, BUTT, and we have video to prove it. The same could be said about anal.

I am a 30-year-old hetero woman. Any ideas on how a person can build up to healthy intimate relationships again while recovering from trauma? I'm afraid in normal sexual situations. How can I get to a point where I can have sex for fun and not in a way where I'm triggering my fight-or-flight response? Yes, I am seeing a therapist.

Traumatic Experience
Nullifying Sexual Energy

Here's an idea, TENSE, but please run it by your therapist before giving it a try: Find a guy you like and propose a different kind of friends-with-benefits arrangement. You will be in charge—you will do all the initiating—and while he can say no to anything you ask, he isn't to ask for or initiate anything himself. You set the menu, you make the rules, you give the orders. He'll need to be someone you trust, and it'll help if he's someone who thinks following orders is sexy—and trust me, TENSE, those guys are out there. You said that normal sexual situations aren't working for you. Maybe an abnormal one would? ■

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What evangelical Christianity does to women: savagelovecast.com.

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An advertisement for Archibald Sisters. It features a large, clear perfume bottle in the foreground. The background is a soft-focus image of pink flowers. The text "SHOP IN 3D" is in white, and "ARCHIBALD SISTERS" is in large, black, outlined letters. Below that, "downtown OLYMPIA" and "406 CAPITOL WAY SOUTH" are in white. A "since 1975" box and social media icons are at the bottom.

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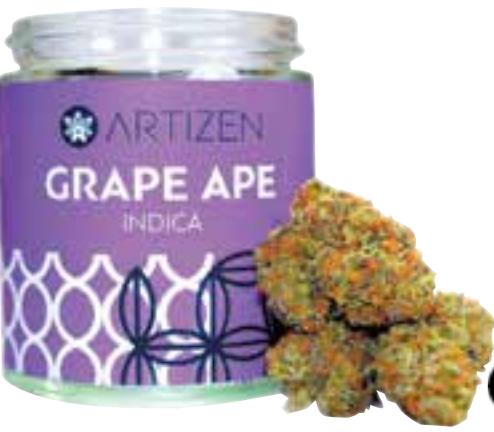
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This project was supported by Grant No. 2016-VA-GX-0044 & 2017-VA-GX-0061 awarded by OVC, US DOJ. POVs in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the OVC, US DOJ. Grant funds are administered by VOCA, WA State DOC.*

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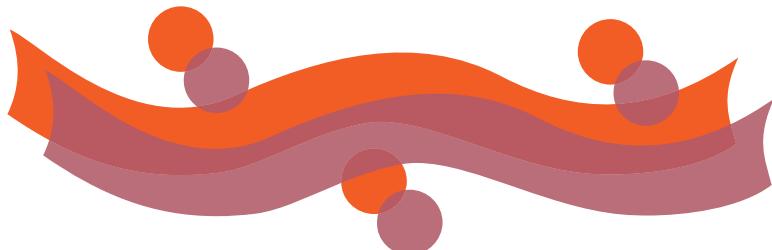
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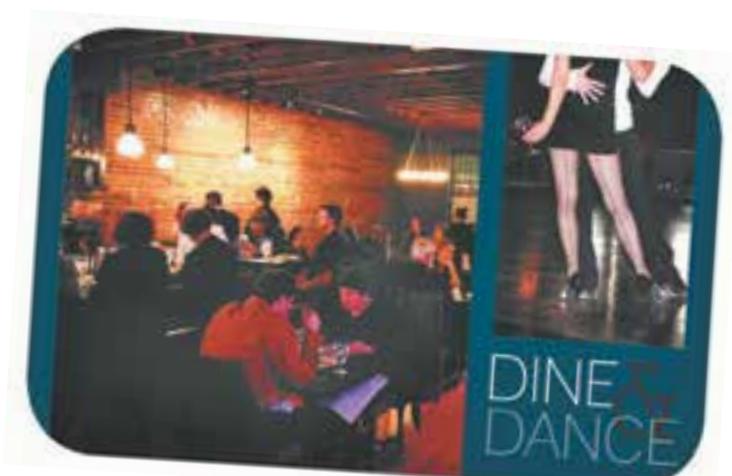
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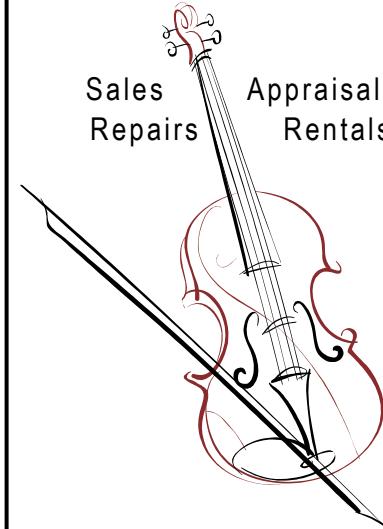
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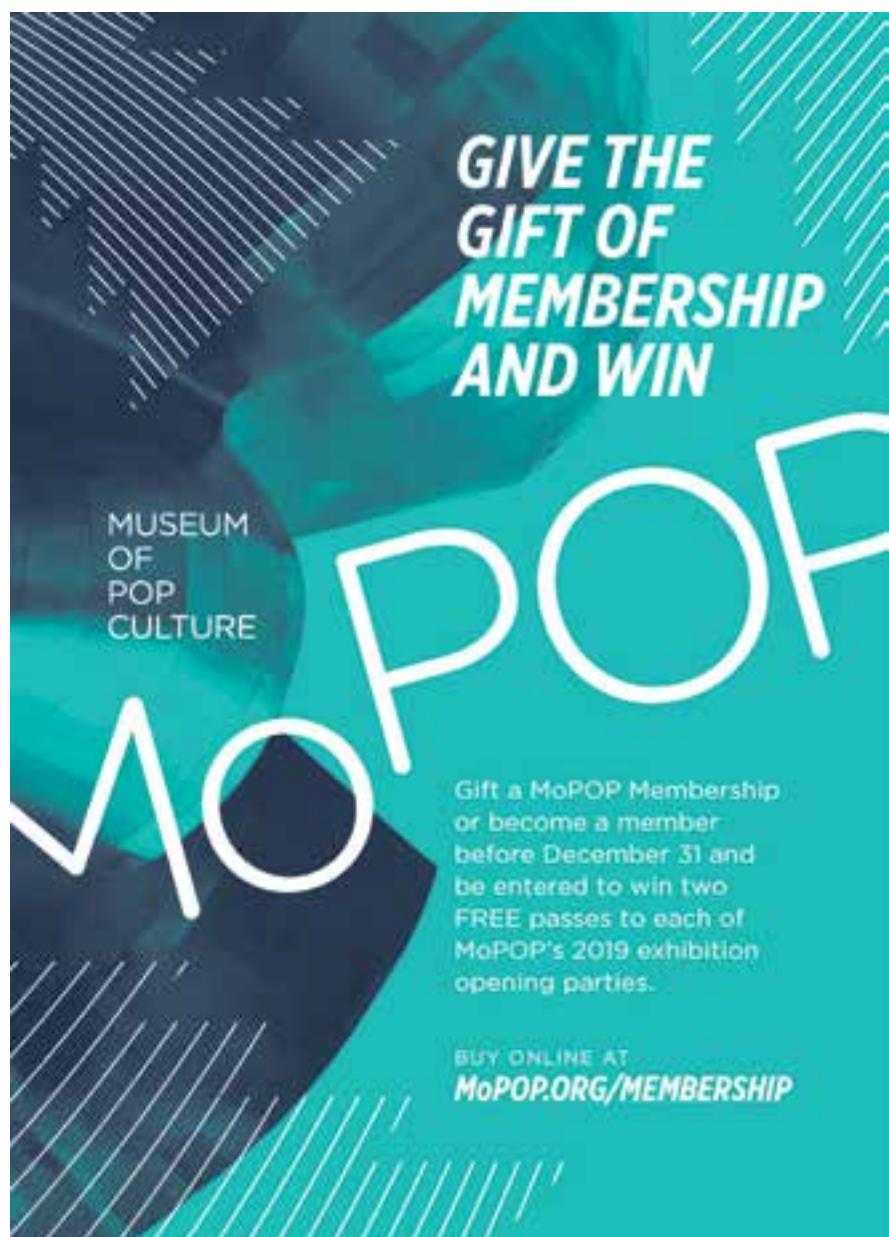
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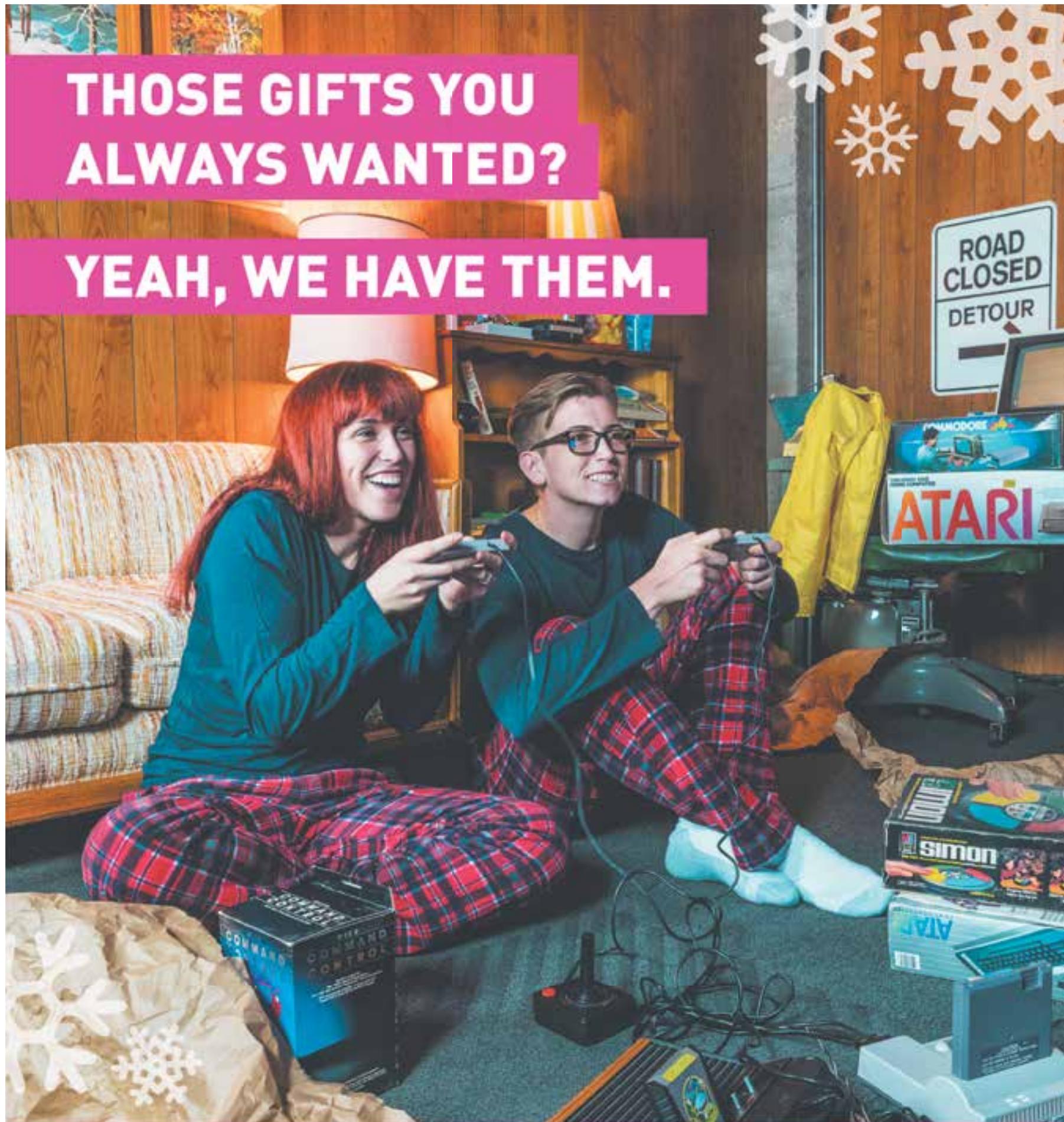
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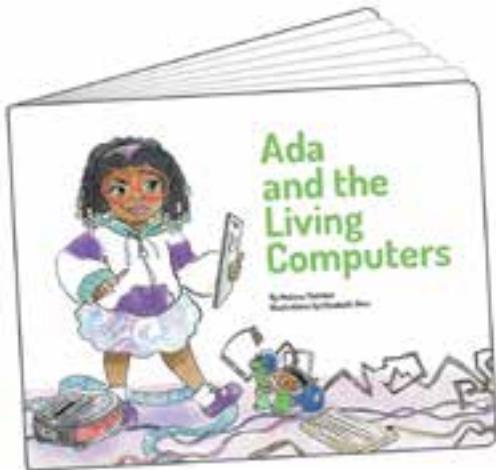
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Thanksgiving Events

If you've still got one leg in your Halloween costume and can't believe Thanksgiving is here already, don't sweat it—with all the events happening on Turkey Day (Thurs Nov 22), you can fool people into thinking you planned ahead. To support local food banks and make room for feasting, participate in the **Seattle Turkey Trot** at Golden Gardens Park, the **Magnuson Series Turkey Trot**, or the **West Seattle Turkey Trot**. Last-minute dinners aren't off the table, either—you'll find comfy Thanksgiving staples at the **5 Point Cafe** and **Lost Lake**, turkey and karaoke at **Crescent Lounge**, and Hawaiian sticky buns at **Hula Hula**.

Classic Holiday Festivities

As soon as Thanksgiving is over, many of Seattle's beloved annual holiday traditions begin. These include a day of Santa visits and holiday treats at **Magic in the Market** at Pike Place (Sat Nov 24), the **28th Annual Macy's Holiday Parade** in downtown Seattle followed by the **Macy's 62nd Annual Star Lighting and Fireworks Show** at Westlake Center (Fri Nov 23), and **Greet the Season** (Sat Nov 24), when MOHAI opens its doors for the holiday model train show, free seasonal storytelling, and access to a special outdoor viewing of the first night of the **Christmas Ship Festival** (Nov 23–Dec 23), a tradition in itself wherein Argosy Cruises' *Spirit of Seattle* sails to different Washington

waterfronts, bringing Christmas choirs and sparkling light displays to onlookers. The day after Thanksgiving is also when **Winterfest** begins at Seattle Center (Nov 23–Jan 6), featuring a winter train village, an ice rink, ice sculpting on Saturdays, and performances. Now is also a good time to snatch up tickets to perennial performance favorites like **George Balanchine's The Nutcracker** at McCaw Hall (Nov 23–Dec 28) and **A Christmas Carol** at ACT Theatre (Nov 23–Dec 28).

Holiday Light Displays

Holiday light spectacles, many of which also start up right after Thanksgiving, are a good antidote to gloomy Seattle winters. This year, there's lots of buzz about Safeco Field's new **Enchant Christmas** (Nov 23–Dec 30), which will include a gigantic light maze and an artisan market. Returning favorites include the Woodland Park Zoo's **WildLights** (Nov 23–Jan 5), Ivar's **Clam Lights** in Renton (Nov 30–Jan 1), Bellevue's **Snowflake Lane** (Nov 23–Dec 24) and **Garden d'Lights** (Nov 24–Dec 30), Tacoma's **Zoolights** (Nov 23–Jan 6), Warm Beach Camp's **Lights of Christmas** (Nov 29–Dec 29), **Wild Waves' Holiday with Lights** (Dec 1–30), and the **Leavenworth Christmas Lighting Festival** (Nov 30–Dec 16). There will also be several special Christmas tree lighting ceremonies, including at the **West Seattle Junction** (Sat Dec 1), **Redmond City Hall** (Sat Dec 1), the **Washington State Fair Events Center** in Puyallup (Wed Nov 28), and in **downtown Kirkland** (Sat Dec 1).

Holiday Markets

There are about a gazillion post-Thanksgiving holiday shopping opportunities in Seattle that don't require you to lose your car in a mall parking garage. One of the most popular is the **Urban Craft Uprising Winter Show** at Seattle Center (Dec 1–2), the organizers of which will also put on weekend markets with the Downtown Seattle Association at **Westlake Park** (Nov 23–Dec 23) and a **South Lake Union Winter Market** in Van Vorst Plaza (Dec 5–6). Small Business Saturday is also a popular shopping day, with events including **Seattle Made's Holiday Pop-Up** at Broadway Market (Sat Nov 24), the **GeekCraft Expo** at Magnuson Park (Nov 24–25), and the **Native Gift Fair and Art Market** at Duwamish Longhouse (Nov 23–25). Later on, check out the **Witches' Night Out Market** at Arcadia (Fri Nov 30), the **Giving Marketplace** at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (Nov 30–Dec 1), the **Rainier Beach Arts & Crafts Market** (Sat Dec 1), and the **United Indians Art Market** at Daybreak Star Cultural Center (Dec 1–2). Don't want to spend money on gifts? Check out thestranger.com/25days to enter to win things to do every day of December.

Hanukkah Celebrations

Whether you've already dusted off your menorah or you're curious about the traditions of Hanukkah (which runs Dec 2–10 this year), your options this fortnight include

the Chabad of Capitol Hill and the Central District's **Latke Cook-Off** at LoveCityLove (Mon Dec 3), Jconnect Seattle's **Hanukkah Crafts Market** (Thurs Nov 29), the Chabad of Kirkland's **Grand Menorah Lighting** at Marina Park (Sun Dec 2), and the Chabad Young Professionals and Chabad of Downtown's **Chanukah Glow Party** at Rendezvous (Sun Dec 2), complete with gourmet latke tasting and a menorah lighting ceremony.

Short List

Beat The Blerch Holiday 5k Green Lake Park, Sat Dec 1, 5–7 pm, \$35	Mars Insight Landing Viewing Pacific Science Center, Mon Nov 26, 10 am–5 pm, \$24
Gingerbread Village Sheraton Hotel, \$5 suggested, through Jan 1	Seattle Festival of Trees Fairmont Olympic Hotel, free–\$200+, through Dec 26
Issaquah Reindeer Festival Cougar Mountain Zoo, Dec 1–23, 10:30 am–4:30 pm, \$16	Seattle Marathon Seattle Center, Sun Nov 25, 7:30 am, \$85–\$170
Luminaria Walk Meadowbrook Community Center, Sat Dec 1, 5:30–7:30 pm, free	A Victorian Country Christmas Washington State Fair Events Center, Nov 28–Dec 2, \$10/\$12

Early Warnings

WINTER SOLSTICE NIGHT MARKET Magnuson Park Hangar 30, Dec 7–8, \$1 suggested donation
GREEN LAKE PATHWAY OF LIGHTS Green Lake Park, Sat Dec 8, 4:30–7:30 pm, free

THINGS TO DO → Art

“I Have a Long Childhood History with Box Forts”

Clyde Petersen makes amazing things with cardboard.

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

The first thing I heard walking out of the elevator was Kimya Dawson's voice. I remember thinking, “Where's the party at?” as I scoured the nooks and crannies of Bellevue Arts Museum's top floor, eventually finding my way to a gallery tucked away in the corner, full of Seattle artist Clyde Petersen's latest work. A jaunty mix of Pacific Northwest punk and post-punk music blared from tiny speakers, engulfing patrons in a PNW punky sonic haze.

Petersen's exhibition *Merch & Destroy* is a product of and an ode to life on the road.

CLYDE PETERSEN: MERCH & DESTROY
Bellevue Arts Museum
Through April 14

“I'm a touring musician and I've been working for bands for about 20 years,” Petersen says.

“Either driving them or playing in them.” Hence, the music of Kimya Dawson, one of many artists Petersen has worked with.

Merch & Destroy is unlike anything I've ever seen before in a museum—it does not feature photography or paintings, lithographs or marble busts, but cardboard. And it's hilariously fun.

“Cardboard is very accessible, and it's malleable and easy to work with,” Petersen tells me, adding, “I have a long childhood history with box forts.” That history is most obviously reflected in the two giant cardboard structures dominating the space. One is a slightly-larger-than-life replica of a Ford Econoline van—a budget-friendly mode of transport for touring indie bands—“loading out” for a show. The other is a re-creation of a punk-rock club greenroom, replete with a wilting vegetable platter and dick graffiti.

The gallery itself is painted completely black with a double yellow line on the floor, evoking the blacktop highways that Petersen has traveled. The exhibition also noticeably smells a lot like cardboard—a strange encounter in a museum setting. When I entered the space, my mind immediately flashed to moving, backaches, stairwells, stress, sweat, the state of constantly being in transit, occupying the in-between.

The van and greenroom have never been exhibited before. *Merch & Destroy* also features items from previous Petersen shows or collaborations—the most interesting being *Shredders*, a collection of fantasy guitars by Petersen and Seattle artist Darius X. Each of the five guitars either enacts some sort of change the artists want to see in the world



COURTESY OF BELLEVUE ARTS MUSEUM

Clyde Petersen's first solo museum exhibition, 'Merch & Destroy,' is an ode to life on the road.

or is a tribute to a woman musician, such as Janelle Monáe or Dolly Parton. The best and perhaps most useful fantasy guitar, in my opinion, is *Slayer*. Shaped like the head of a growling wolf, this guitar kills rapists in local music scenes. Exactly how the guitar does that is left up to your imagination.

That's what makes this exhibition so interesting—the extent and intricacy of Petersen's imagination and storytelling. The world building and tiny details of his creations—like the very visible Washington State vehicle registration slip in the van or the crate full of hilariously titled made-up vinyl records—make this exhibition feel lived-in. As if I had crawled inside of his brain and got to poke around for a while.

Petersen doesn't work in mystic, impenetrable symbolism; he manages to translate the drudgery and unglamorous bits of touring in a way that makes you feel in on the joke, despite never having learned any power chords whatsoever. It was the most fun I'd had in a museum in a long time. ■

Top Picks

NOV 27-DEC 29



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST/MARIANE IBRAHIM GALLERY

Clotilde Jiménez: 'Apple of My Eye'

London-based artist Clotilde Jiménez's self-portrait collages are fascinating in that they take on an almost Frankenstein monster-like quality, this aggregate idea of identity and self. Culling the figures in his portraits from scraps of free magazines, kitchen towels, and cloth, and

combining them with drawn or painted-on elements, his work is a deft exploration into the queer black male body and Jiménez's own identity. I like this idea of finding scraps of yourself in the most random places—plus his collages are fun to look at. (*Jacob Lawrence Gallery*, Tues-Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

CLOSING FRI NOV 30

Tara Booth: 'Everybody loves a clown, so why can't you?'

Tara Booth's near-wordless universe is dominated by a smelly, lopsided cartoon woman whose emotions—simple delight in everyday pleasures, caffeine-fueled mania, fire-breathing rage at the injustice of the world, grief at the death of her dog—are scrawled all over her shapeless face. Deliberately clumsy and instantly readable, Booth's work stirs up the amusement and pathos of *commedia dell'arte*, as seen in her graphic novellas *Dull* and *Nocturne*. The Chicago-based artist came to Mount Analogue to produce a site-specific installation, and she has painted directly onto the walls of the gallery, whose furnishings will reflect her sensibilities with “potato chip bags, hand-painted plant pots and bedding, and some framed original works.” Cold Cube Press is also releasing *Spicy Metal II*, a comics zine with work by Booth and Neon Saltwater. You

THINGS TO DO → Art

should buy it. (Mount Analogue, Thurs-Sun, free.)
JOULE ZELMAN

CLOSING SAT DEC 1

Maja Petrić: 'We Are All Made of Light'

It's easy to feel increasingly disconnected from politics, from the country, from our neighbors, from even ourselves. In response, Seattle-based artist Maja Petrić is using her new immersive exhibit, *We Are All Made of Light*, to look at the ways that humans can plug back into our OG bio-cosmic fabric. Using a heady combination of interactive light, spatial sound, and artificial intelligence developed by Mihai Jalobeanu, Petrić's installation creates audiovisual trails of each visitor as they move through the space. As the installation goes on, previous visitors' trails will mix together as part of the constellation of light that new visitors will encounter, connecting everyone with the past, present, and future. "The immersive experience emulates a constellation in which every person becomes one among the stars," Petrić explained. Trippy shit. (MadArt, Tues-Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

CLOSING SUN DEC 2



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Robert Hardgrave and Jeremy Eaton: 'hARDGRAVEATON'

"It's more like challenging each other to work off what's in evidence," Jeremy Eaton said when I asked if his process with Robert Hardgrave was

like that of the dadaist "exquisite corpse" game. Their growing rapport as friends and respect for each other as art collaborators can be seen in the works on paper they've co-created over the past four years. Eaton's background as a comic illustrator brings narrative into Hardgrave's Xerox transfers and bold mark making. There is a tentativeness in their early pieces, while recent works show their two styles fully enmeshed. It doesn't hurt that they're neighbors, too. (Energetic Studio, Sat-Sun, free.) KATIE KURTZ

CLOSING MON DEC 31

Ellen Ito: 'Cook'

The experimental project and home gallery space of artists Joey Veltkamp and Ben Gannon, *cogean?* features exhibitions that highlight domestic arts and crafts. Launched in March, their fifth show at the 100-year-old house they share on Cogean Avenue—which is within easy walking distance of the Bremerton ferry terminal—is from Ellen Ito, and it is centered on sharing food as community building. Ito also organized a publication in conjunction with the show; it features illustrations and recipes by more than 40 artists, including Matthew Offenbacher, Nicholas Nyland, and Lulu Yee. Proceeds from recipe-book sales benefit local organizations, and attendees are encouraged to bring donations for a food drive to stock a local food bank. (*cogean?*, Bremerton, daily, free.) KATIE KURTZ

CLOSING SUN APRIL 28

Bruce Conner: 'Untitled Prints'

Bruce Conner's latest exhibition does not feature the music video he collaborated on with David Byrne and Brian Eno, or any of his other surreal experimental found-footage assemblages. Instead, it focuses on murky and moody prints Conner made in 1970-71 using a new-to-market felt-tip pen. Ink in these pens dried out quickly, resulting in Conner exploring ephemerality in his drawings, memorializing them forever by photographing and then transferring the results to print. (Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

MORE StrangerThingsToDo.com

Short List

MUSEUMS

Seattle Chapter Black Panther Party 50 Years: Power to the People Northwest African American Museum, Wed-Sun, \$7, through Nov 27

GALLERIES

45th Anniversary Show SAM Gallery, Wed-Sun, free, through Nov 28

Daniel Ursache: Uncanny Figments A/NT Gallery, daily, free, through Nov 24

Eirik Johnson: Pine G. Gibson Gallery, Wed-Sat, free, through Dec 1

Elizabeth LaPensée: heart of the game Hedreen Gallery, Dec 1-March 3, Wed-Sat, free

Emily Sudd: Sitting in the Dark James Harris Gallery, Wed-Sat, free, through Nov 30

Matthew Dennison: Knowledge of Other Places Abmeyer + Wood, Mon-Sat, free, through Dec 1

Good Mourning: An Interactive Arts Festival About Grief and Loss Crown Hill Center, Sat-Sun, free, through Dec 2

Magalie Guérin: The Marfa Paintings James Harris Gallery, Wed-Sat, free, through Nov 30

Martha Shade: Observations From the Lost and Found ArtXchange, Tues-Sat, free, through Nov 24

Peter Ferguson: Mock Robin Roq La Rue, Wed-Sun, free, through Dec 2

Raven Skyriver: Confluence Stonington Gallery, daily, free, through Nov 30

Short Run Marathon Exhibition Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery, daily, free, through Dec 5

Youth in Focus M. Rosetta Hunter Art Gallery, Nov 27-Dec 14, Mon-Fri, free

ART EVENTS

Best American Comics Birthday Bash! Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery, Sat Nov 24, 6 pm, free

Early Warnings

CLAIRE PARTINGTON: TAKING TEA Seattle Art Museum, Dec 7-Dec 6, 2020, \$25

ART UNDER \$100 Seattle Design Center, Sat Dec 8, 2-8 pm, free/\$20



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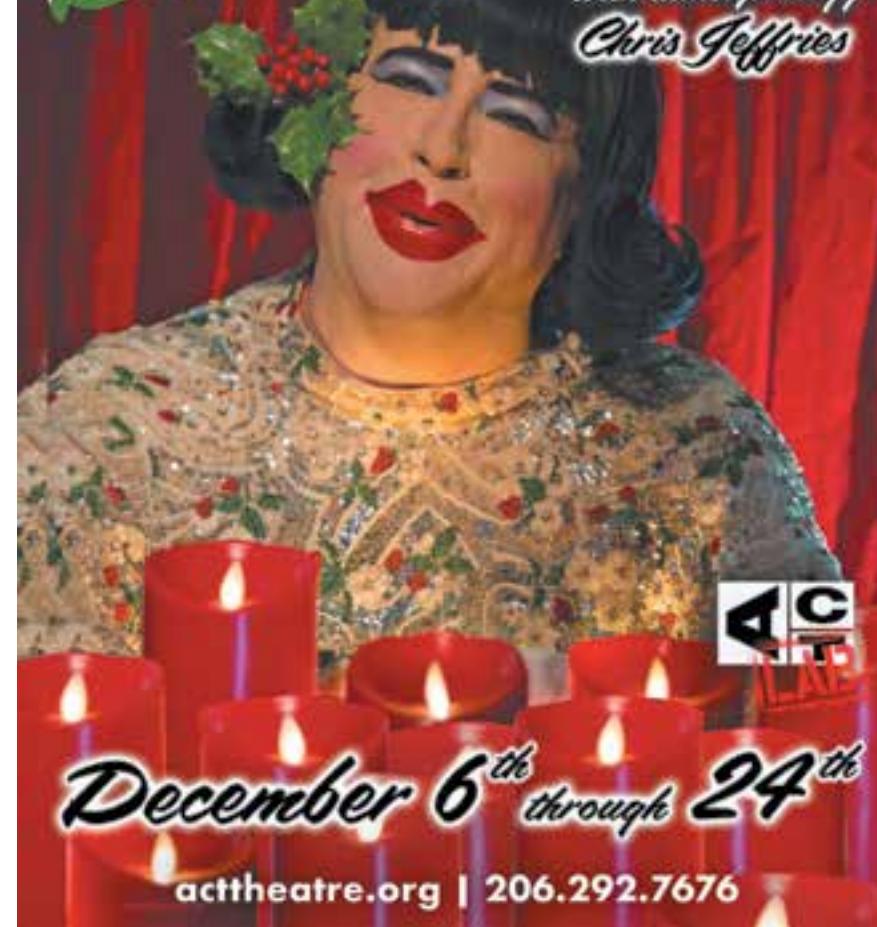
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THE CONCERT



THINGS TO DO → *Performance*

Have Yourself a Queer Christmas

John Waters weighs in on antifa's fashion choices, Melania's decorating, and the embarrassing thing about Black Friday.

BY CHASE BURNS

John Waters comes to Seattle every Christmas season, doesn't he? It feels like it. The potty-mouthed original daddy of filth is putting in his time yet again this year, and we're lucky to have him.

A JOHN WATERS CHRISTMAS
Sun Dec 2, Neptune Theatre, 8 pm, \$38, all ages

John Waters Christmas. Just buy some merch.

Last Christmas, you said you wanted riots. Did you get what you asked for?

Not enough! I want more gay trouble and more radical behavior... What happened to all the kids who were walking out of school?

I don't know. Didn't you say you thought antifa were kind of sexy?

NO! I think they aren't sexy ENOUGH! I read *The Anti-Fascist Handbook*, and it was kind of dull, you know? There was no humor. The black bloc, they at least kind of have style, and they have those shields made out of duct tape, which I'm kind of jealous of... but I have always thought they should add a little color, a hint of red for communism or something.

If you ever wanted your face or butt or bloody tampon to be signed by the troubled filmmaker behind *Hairspray*, *Pink Flamingos*, and *Female Trouble*, he will do it at *A John Waters Christmas*. Just buy some merch.



John Waters on antifa protesters: "They should add a little color."

ing down chimneys... there are so many double entendres that it's impossible not to have Christmas porn. Tell your boss to watch the Jeff Stryker Santa porn.

Any holiday decorating advice for Melania Trump and the White House?

From the decorations I imagine, the Trumps would have Jeff Koons sculptures without the irony. They would have them *for real* and think that they make them look richer, when of course that makes them look the poorest in taste.

Did you see her holiday decorating last year?

Yes. It looked like a very goth Las Vegas.

Any holiday traditions that we can do away with?

Black Friday. I don't understand why people would purposefully want to go to crowded stores. That's a mystery to me. Obviously people like it. I could never imagine doing it. It's the same reason I hate gambling. It's embarrassing when you win. You have to admit you're *that poor*. And they don't even have the cascading coins anymore—they have the sound of it but no coins. When I found that out! I mean, they give you like a *credit card*—what fun is that?! It's embarrassing. The lights go off, and you have to jump up and down because you won \$20. I try to leave as quickly as possible when I go to Las Vegas. ■

What do you think of Christmas-themed porn? My boss, Dan Savage, thinks Christmas-themed porn is an abomination—

Christmas-themed what?

Porn.

Oh, there's a great one that Jeff Stryker did where he was dressed as Santa and jerking off to the camera and talking dirty. It was hilarious. I'm for some Christmas porn. Go-

Top Picks

NOV 23-DEC 30



JOHN DAUGHERTY

'In the Heights'

Every decade, a musical comes around that reminds the general public that musicals can be popular, cool, and mainstream. The '80s had *A Chorus Line*, the '90s had *Rent*, the early '00s had *Wicked*, and the teens had *Hamilton*. But before Lin-Manuel Miranda became a household name for creating *Hamilton*, he was snatching up trophies and accolades for his other hugely popular

musical, *In the Heights*. Broadway fans will go and fall in love again, and newbies will get a chance to see Miranda's earlier work for the first time. (*Seattle Repertory Theatre*, \$17-\$135.) CHASE BURNS

SAT NOV 24

Amy Schumer

You doubtless know her from her film comedies, but stand-up is where she gets real. So real. Remember when she had her come-up in 2007 on *Last Comic Standing*? She didn't win, even though her bubbly delivery made the obscene observations about being a woman (that I could totally relate to and that were probably NSF network television) even more hilarious.



COURTESY OF COMEDY CENTRAL

Her raunchy-ass humor has remained firmly intact as her star has risen, and this stop in Seattle on Thanksgiving weekend will find her preggo and incorporating that into her material, if her viral morning sickness Instagram pic (Schumer in front of the toilet: "Today

Markle is in Fiji #same... Milf alert") and reviews of recent sets are any indication. (*Paramount Theatre*, 8 pm, \$125.) LEILANI POLK

NOV 29-DEC 8

'Dragon Mama'

Welcome to the second installment of Sara Porkalob's extremely well-named trilogy of plays, *The Dragon Cycle*. After several iterations and permutations, the celebrated

local playwright's *Dragon Lady* found its fullest form as a hilarious and heartwarming musical about her own badass Filipino gangster grandma and her mother's struggle to care for the family in hard times. Part II, *Dragon Mama*, follows Porkalob's mother, Maria, through 25 years of life in Bremerton. The play promises "queer love in a barren land, a dope '90s R&B soundtrack, Filipino gangsters, and ghosts." If *Dragon Mama* ends up developing the way *Dragon Lady* did, you'll want to get in early to enjoy the pleasures of watching Porkalob's genius transform the show over time. (18th & Union, Mon and Wed-Sun, \$15-\$25.) RICH SMITH

NOV 29-DEC 30

'My Ántonia'

Look, Willa Cather is a literary lesbian prairie goddess and *My Ántonia* is one of her most famous masterpieces. Published in 1918, *My Ántonia* is a story of an orphaned boy from Virginia who befriends a bunch of Bohemian immigrants in Nebraska. The play version of the novel is lyrical, pretty, and very American

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THINGS TO DO → Performance

Bon Iver & TU Dance: Come Through



ANDREW BLACKSTEIN

DEC 5-6

Bon Iver & TU Dance: 'Come Through'

This sounds like a feast for the eyes and ears. Bon Iver's music is delicately lovely, lushly orchestrated, and classily experimental—chamber folk-pop with an electronic beating heart driven by the silky, emotive, falsetto-reaching vocals and creative musical abundance of singer-songwriter Justin Vernon. He collaborated on a project with Saint Paul's contemporary TU Dance troupe, and the result, *Come Through*, marries new Bon Iver music with the choreography of Uri Sands to beautiful effect. There's a new mini-doc about the making of the work by Twin Cities PBS that includes video of three movements from the program. It brought tears to my eyes. I imagine the full program will inspire more awe (and maybe some joyful weeping) when the two-date run lands in Seattle. (Paramount Theatre, 8 pm, \$65-\$85.) **LEILANI POLK**

MORE StrangerThingsToDo.com

FRI NOV 30

Jimmy Carr

A generically handsome white man who speaks in a posh British accent, Jimmy Carr uses his clean-cut, button-downed demeanor as a Trojan horse to tell some filthily funny and downright morbid jokes. The shock of these ribald and caustic quips comes largely from Carr's conservative, suit-jacketed stage presence. He can also come across as an English Steven Wright, packing much clever absurdity into concise one- or two-liners. Carr's delivery is so prim, that even when he's offending you, you feel grateful. Watching his clips on YouTube, I LOLed so loudly and frequently, I began to get concerned looks from my colleagues. (Neptune Theatre, 7:30 and 10 pm, \$35.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Short List

Acrobatic Conundrum 12th Avenue Arts, Nov 30-Dec 22	Fefu and Her Friends UW Meany Studio Theater, Nov 25-Dec 9, \$10-\$20	MUGZ Timbre Room, Fri Nov 23, 8 pm, \$8
A Christmas Carol ACT Theatre, Nov 23-Dec 28, \$27-\$87	George Balanchine's 'The Nutcracker' McCaw Hall, Nov 23-Dec 28, \$28-\$212	Our Great Tchaikovsky Seattle Repertory Theatre, Nov 29-Dec 16, Tues-Sun, \$77-\$82
Comedy Night Hosted by Mycole Brown Woodland Theater, Fri Nov 30, 8 pm	Jake Johannsen Laughs Comedy Club, Nov 30-Dec 1, 8 pm, 10 pm, \$20/\$25	A People's History Seattle Repertory Theatre, \$50-\$57, through Nov 25
Seattle International Comedy Competition Various locations, \$15-\$54, through Nov 25	Seattle International Comedy Competition Various locations, \$15-\$54, through Nov 25	Uncle Mike Ruins Christmas Jet City Improv, Nov 23-Dec 22, Fri-Sat, 10 pm, \$17/\$18
Wonderland Can Can, Wed-Sun, 7 pm, 9:30 pm, \$40+, through Jan 13	Veils West of Lenin, Nov 30-Dec 16, \$25	A Very Die Hard Christmas Seattle Public Theater, Nov 29-Dec 23, \$15-\$30

Early Warnings

OKWUI OKPOKwasili: POOR PEOPLE'S TV ROOM *On the Boards*, Dec 6-9, \$10-\$70

DINA MARTINA CHRISTMAS SHOW ACT Theatre, Dec 6-24, \$27-\$47

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE LIVE! Paramount Theatre, Fri Dec 7, 8 pm, \$36-\$66+

HOMO FOR THE HOLIDAYS: JINGLE ALL THE GAY! West Hall, Dec 7-30, \$25-\$42

THE READ Moore Theatre, Sat Dec 8, 8 pm, \$33

CONAN & FRIENDS: AN EVENING OF STAND-UP AND INVESTMENT TIPS Moore Theatre, Tues Dec 11, 8 pm, \$125-\$848

A DRAG QUEEN CHRISTMAS: THE NAUGHTY TOUR Moore Theatre, Wed Dec 12, 8 pm, \$22-\$54

DISNEY'S THE LION KING Paramount Theatre, Dec 13-Jan 6, \$75+

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THINGS TO DO → Books & Talks

A Revealing Memoir of Airport Detention

Mohamed Ansem's fascinating *Stranger in the Pen*.

BY RICH SMITH

There's nothing quite like spending a night in an airport detention facility due to racist immigration policies to really kick-start that existential crisis you've been putting off. That's more or less the whole story in Mohamed Asem's slim but revealing memoir, *Stranger in the Pen* (out on Portland's Perfect Day Publishing).

On his return to the UK from a vacation, immigration officials at the Gatwick Airport stop Asem and direct him to the airport's detention "pen" for further screening. To them, Asem doesn't fit into any of their

**LISA WELLS,
ASHLEY TOLIVER,
MOHAMED ASE**
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boxes. He's a financially independent Kuwaiti man who was born in the United States, was raised in Paris, graduated with an MFA in fiction from a university in London, and looks almost exactly like former French president Nicolas Sarkozy. For those sins—in addition to the sin of having Mohamed as a first name—the authorities are suspicious enough to hold him in the pen. Ultimately, Asem is confined for being cool.

While he endures the annoyances of racial profiling, the caprice of low-level functionaries, and the terrible food, Asem wonders what the hell he's been doing with his life. His nomadic, literary-themed travels across Europe haven't been fruitful. His fiction manuscript isn't exactly writing itself. His family is pressuring him to find a nice girl and settle down, but he seems to be forever falling in love with unattainable women. And on top of all that, he's not sure if he wants to land in the United States or Kuwait. Both seem like volatile places for different reasons.

Asem's pining for old crushes takes up a little too much space in the book. His dialogue in these sections is wooden, his rejections don't seem particularly notable or pathetic, and the physical descriptions of the love interests fall flat. He's so obsessed with the phenomenon of a strand of hair falling across a woman's brow that he describes it happening on two separate occasions with two different women. It's an effort, of course, to assert the special particularity of his affection. But repeating the descriptor betrays the opposite.

That said, Asem's reflections on the differences between how he sees himself and how the state sees him are fascinating, and his writing about the social life and culture in Kuwait make for some strikingly gorgeous passages. Like many mixed people or people with dual citizenship, he doesn't fully belong to any one group, and so he belongs nowhere. He's too Western-cosmopolitan for some Kuwaitis, but too apparently Arab to slip through customs unmolested in Britain or the United States.



CASSANDRA SWAN

These unstable identities are confusing enough in his own head—but Asem's story reminds us that, in the hands of the state, they're used as weapons. Country of origin, apparent race, name—these are accidents of birth that tell very little about a traveler's intentions or their ultimate identity. They're not particularly useful in separating terrorists from non-terrorists. Banning people from certain countries or using those details to justify extra scrutiny merely reflects the long history of racism and xenophobia in the US and the UK, and ultimately makes us less safe.

The bullshit Asem went through at the Gatwick Airport seems relatively mild compared to the stories of family separation or people forced to return to countries they haven't lived in for years, but his is an important and interesting read for exactly that reason. If immigration officials behave this badly with a guy who speaks English and looks like Sarkozy, you can imagine how they behave when interrogating people who don't. ■

Top Picks

MON NOV 26

Seattle Arts & Lectures: Danez Smith

When you're talking about Danez Smith, the old page-poet/stage-poet dichotomy simply dissolves. Smith is one of the most successful poets working in any form of contemporary poetry in the United States, be it slam, academic, "experimental," or whatever. Their stage poems contain all the precision of the most well-crafted lyrics, and their page poems burn with the fire of any performance poet. Their latest book, *Don't Call Us Dead*, was a finalist for the



HIEU MINH NGUYEN

THINGS TO DO → Books & Talks

National Book Award. The book is a compassionate contemplation of black bodies beset by HIV and bad cops and grace. *[insert] boy*, their previous effort from YesYesBooks, covered similar ground and sold widely, busting out of the niche small-press poetry world from which it sprang. They've won all the awards you're supposed to win and then some. All hail. (*Broadway Performance Hall*, 7:30 pm, \$20/\$60.) **RICH SMITH**

TUES NOV 27

Ina Garten

Barefoot Contessa is one of those cooking shows that you don't even really have to watch. Ina Garten's instructions on how to prepare, cook, and serve anything from a big breakfast buffet (potato pancetta frittata, yum!) to food for a surprise Italian party (balsamic roasted beef, anyone?) is soothingly delicious background noise. The last few seasons of Food Network's longest running cooking show all have a "Cook Like a Pro" theme, which spurred her 11th and latest cookbook (and the reason she's coming to Seattle), *Cook Like a Pro: Recipes and Tips for Home Cooks*. (*Benaroya Hall*, 8 pm, \$48-\$58.) **LEILANI POLK**

WED NOV 28

Bob Woodward

I just flipped open my copy of *Fear: Trump in the White House* by veteran journalist Bob Woodward to a random page and saw the words "The president's unhinged." The person purportedly saying those words is White House chief of staff John Kelly. The Kelly quote goes on: "The president just really doesn't understand anything... He doesn't know what he's talking about." The subject at hand is South Korea, but it almost doesn't matter what Kelly is referring to, because the book is full of passages like this, because the president doesn't know shit. But Woodward has spent the past two years talking to insiders. *He knows his shit.* (*Paramount Theatre*, 7:30 pm, \$25-\$55.) **CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE**



THURS NOV 29

Jonathan Lethem: 'The Feral Detective'

Jonathan Lethem is back in familiar territory with his new literary detective novel, *The Feral Detective*. I'm sure it's just as smart and hilarious and maximalist as his other books, including his last attempt at the genre, the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning *Motherless Brooklyn*. In the new book, a burned-out journalist named Phoebe Siegler hires a reclusive detective with a pet opossum to help her find a friend's missing daughter in the California desert east of Los Angeles. When the two discover the kid among a group of weirdo desert dwellers, things start to go wrong for everybody involved. (*Elliott Bay Book Company*, 7 pm, free.) **RICH SMITH**

FRI NOV 30

Ryan Stoa: 'Craft Weed: Family Farming and the Future of the Marijuana Industry'

Six years after Washington became the first state in the nation to legalize recreational weed, business is booming. And as more states and countries decide to legalize this heady plant, it's having a major impact on the market. In *Craft Weed: Family Farming and the Future of the Marijuana Industry*, Ryan Stoa argues that instead of allowing mega corporations and agribusiness to dominate the market, cannabis still has a chance to stay small, prizing small producers over the Anheuser-Buschs of the industry. What will it take? Get some answers when Stoa reads from his book and fields questions at this event. (*Elliott Bay Book Company*, 7 pm, free.) **KATIE HERZOG**

WED DEC 5

'Shout Your Abortion' Book Release Bash

When Congress tried to defund Planned Parenthood in 2015, Amelia Bonow logged on to Facebook and did something radical: She talked openly and positively about her abortion. Writer Lindy West shared the post on Twitter with the hashtag #ShoutYourAbortion, and their movement to destigmatize and demythologize abortion began. Now Bonow and Tacocat frontwoman Emily Nokes are publishing a new book of personal essays (and cool photos!) from Angela Garbes (*Like a Mother*), El Sanchez, Viva Ruiz, and other brilliant women and nonbinary artists who have expanded the movement using their own particular talents and strengths. Grab a drink, listen to some of those stories, and enjoy music from SYA's "house band." (*Neptune Theatre*, 8 pm, \$11.) **RICH SMITH**

MORE StrangerThingsToDo.com

Short List

- Richard Rothstein:**
Color of Law
Elliott Bay Book Company, Tues Dec 4, 7 pm, free
- Rob Reich:** *Just Giving—Why Philanthropy Is Failing Democracy*
Impact HUB Seattle, Wed Nov 28, 7:30 pm, \$5
- The Shapeshifting Book:** *From Clay Tablet, to Paper, to Touchscreen*
McMenamins Anderson School, Tues Nov 27, 7 pm, free
- Neil deGrasse Tyson**
Paramount Theatre, Nov 26-27, 7:30 pm, \$46-\$86 (sold out)
- Silent Reading Party**
Hotel Sorrento, Wed Dec 5, 6 pm, free
- The Value of a Work of Art Can Be Measured By the Harm Spoken of It: Conversations with David Shields**
Frye Art Museum, Sat Dec 1, 2 pm, free
- Renee Hobbs: Mind Over Media**
Kane Hall, Room 120, Wed Nov 28, 7:30 pm, free
- Revolution in the Air / Building Power On the Ground**
Third Place Books Seward Park, Mon Nov 26, 7 pm, free
- Word Works: Natalie Baszile**
Hugo House, Thurs Nov 29, 7 pm, \$15

Early Warnings

RANDY SHAW: GENERATION PRICED OUT *The Summit*, Thurs Dec 6, 7:30 pm, \$5

RONAN FARROW *McCaw Hall*, Mon Feb 11, 7:30 pm, \$270-\$480

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12/9, 6:00pm. \$5-\$15.

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Taproot Theatre: 204 N 85th St

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SUPER DIAMOND THE NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE JANUARY 18 9:00PM	BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS with LOS COLOGNES JANUARY 19 8:00PM	THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS with MIDNIGHT NORTH JANUARY 26 8:00PM	THE AMITY AFFLICION + SENSES FALL with BELMONT FEBRUARY 4 7:30PM
DARK STAR ORCHESTRA FEBRUARY 7 8:00PM	BLACKBERRY SMOKE FEBRUARY 12 8:00PM	AURORA with TALOS FEBRUARY 14 8:30PM	BOOGIE T.RIO With MERSIV FEBRUARY 17 8:30PM
SAVES THE DAY with REMO DRIVE + MIGHTY FEBRUARY 22 8:00PM	ROYAL TRUX FEBRUARY 27 8:00PM	STATE CHAMPS MARCH 21 7:30PM	FKJ APRIL 6 9:00PM

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SAN HOLE with CHET PORTER, TASKA BLACK, DUSKUS DECEMBER 21+22 9:00PM	LANCO JANUARY 18 8:00PM	TRITONAL JANUARY 26 9:00PM	LP FEBRUARY 1 8:00PM

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Seattle Band, South American Flair

Terror/Cactus present their trippy Northwest take on cumbia digital.

BY GREG SCRUGGS

Seattle is almost 7,000 miles from Buenos Aires, but our city is finding a niche for the hypnotically irresistible sound of cumbia. For the uninitiated, cumbia is a pan-Latin American folkloric genre that originated in Colombia. It has a trademark guitar style and an unmistakable steady beat from the güiro, a shaker-like percussion instrument. Like a slower cousin of salsa, it's also a popular partner dance.

Argentine producers have been experimenting with cumbia electronically for a decade. Many of those "cumbia digital" pioneers passed through the groundbreaking ZZK Records.

TERROR/CACTUS, GUAYABA, DA QWEEN
Sat Dec 1, Timbre Room, 7 pm, \$10, 21+
The Argentine label's most recent Seattle stop was in June at Barboza, where they found the perfect local opener: Terror/Cactus.

Terror/Cactus is the bridge between these two otherwise disparate cities, the brainchild of 31-year-old Martín Selasco, who was born in Buenos Aires, was raised in Miami, and moved to Seattle as a teenager. His grandfather ran popular Argentine record label Music Hall, and his father continued the imprint's distribution from Florida, where the young Martín was initiated into the family business.

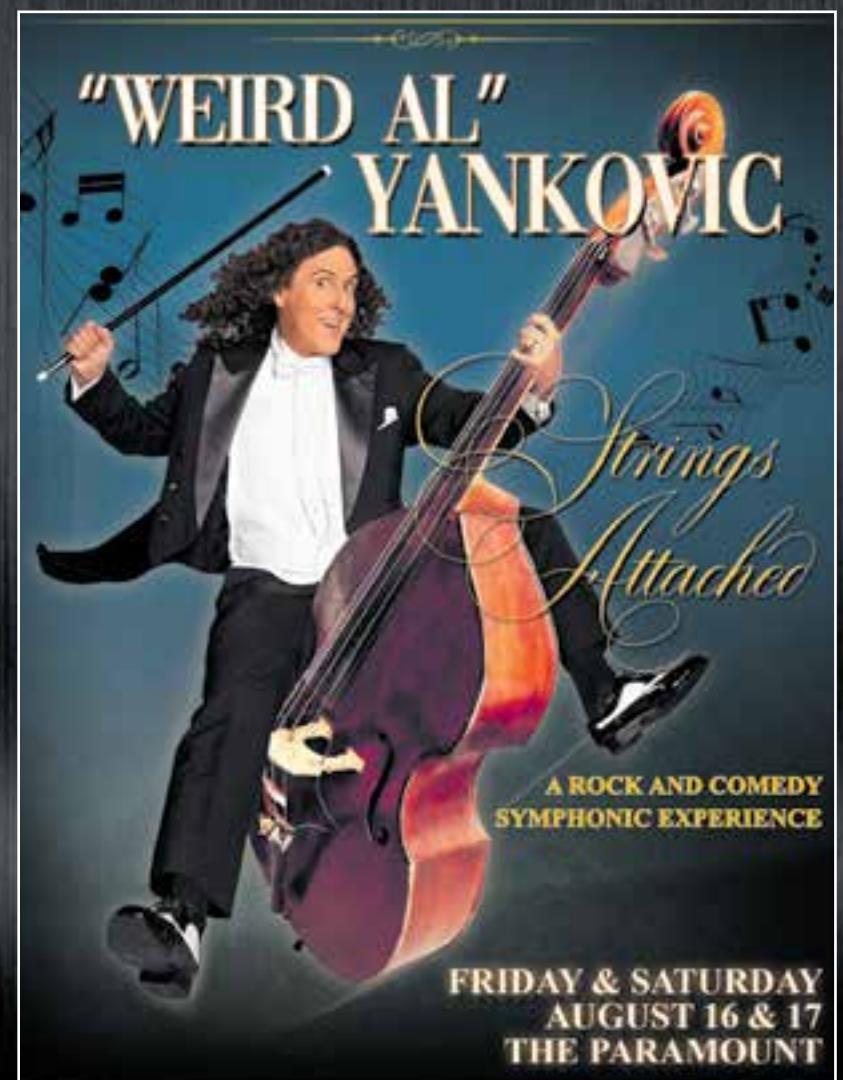
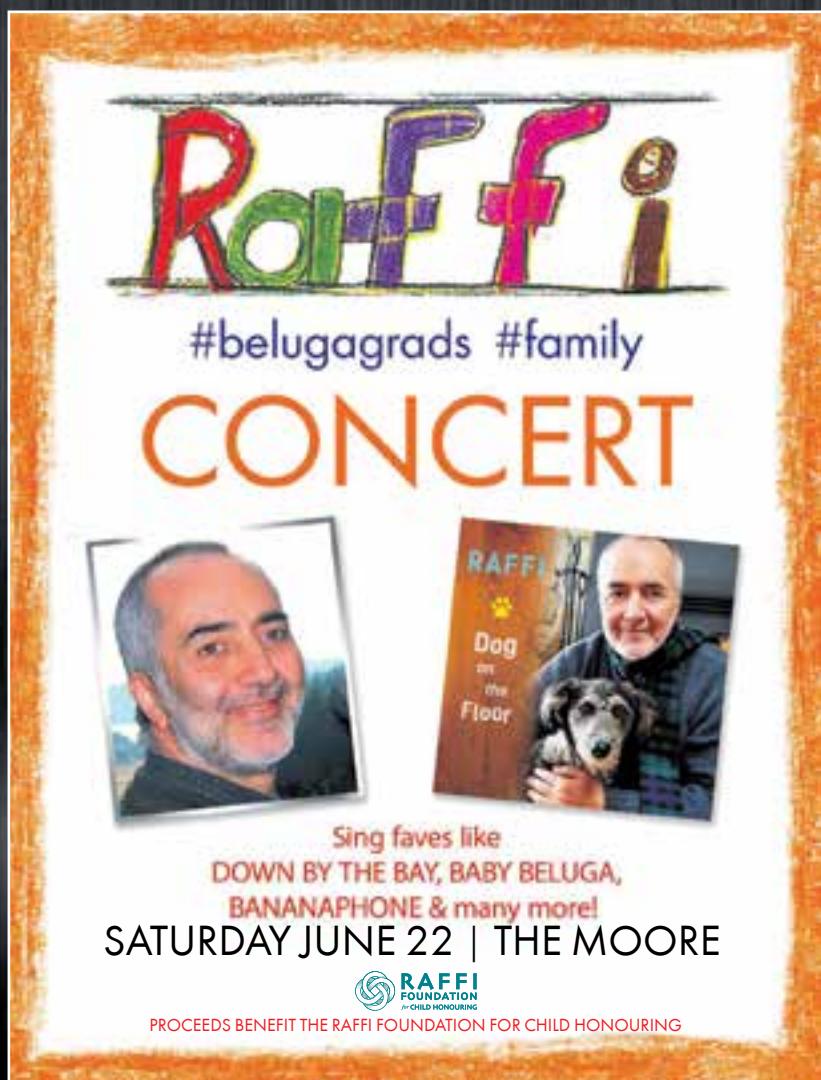
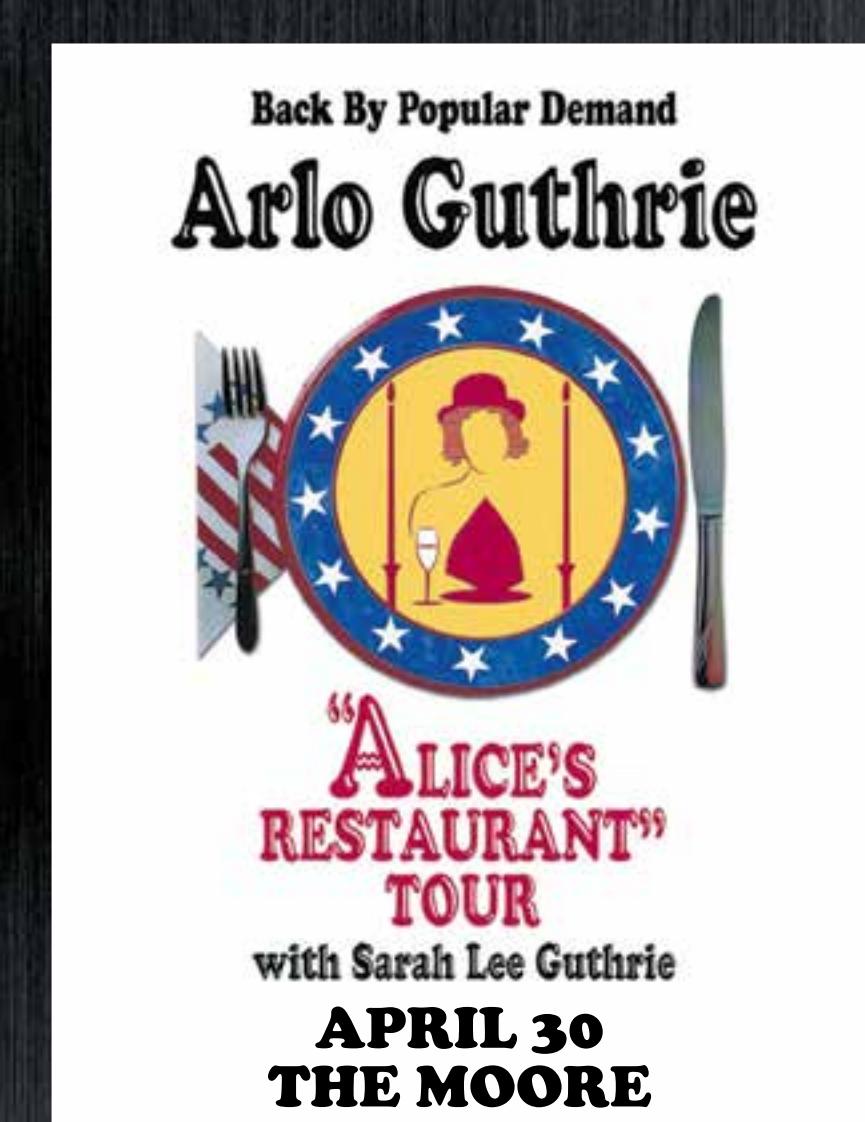
"As a kid, I'd hang out in the warehouse, help him box up CDs, and put labels on packages," Selasco said in an interview. "I discov-

ered a lot of Latin American folk that way."

As an adolescent, Selasco went from a nearly all-Latinx school environment in Miami to being the odd one out here, where he was ignorantly teased for being "Mexican," even though Seattle is closer to Mexico City than Buenos Aires is.

Music helped him cope. "I have been making music my whole life—electronic tango, indie pop with Argentine folklore mixed in, some cumbia, spazzy garage pop," he recounted.

And despite the harassment at school, the Emerald City provided some advantages.



THINGS TO DO → Music

by some gung-ho local musicians. (*The Royal Room*, 6:30 pm, 9:30 pm, \$15/\$20.) **DAVE SEGAL**

SAT NOV 24

Band Crush: Pierre Kwenders & Chimurenga Renaissance

FUNK/REGGAE Pierre Kwenders came from Canada to play Congolese music with help from such locals as SassyBlack and Chimurenga Renaissance. The new album, *MAKANDA at the End of Space, the Beginning of Time*, mixes hope and encouragement with brooding and menace. Chimurenga Renaissance boasts one Zimbabwean American member, Tendai "Baba" Maraire, and one Congolese American member, Hussein Kalonji, blending their respective sounds with hiphop. And apparently, someone will be doing some recording this evening. Savor the show and enter your claps and whoops into history (*Columbia City Theater*, 8 pm, \$12/\$15.) **ANDREW HAMLIN**



Julien Baker with Phoebe Bridgers and Lucy Dacus

ROCK/POP Two young songwriters working in the literate tradition of Cat Power, Liz Phair, and Leonard Cohen top this bill. Julien Baker's solo work is intimate, deeply felt, and strikingly candid; with little but her voice and guitar or piano, her songs detail the despair and catharsis of young-adult inner life. Phoebe Bridgers has been involved in the LA music community since middle school, and through a combination of hobnobbing and hustle, she's become a name in the indie scene. Her thoughtful songwriting has graced many a network TV drama, and her face appears on the cover of *Fader*'s fall fashion issue. Baker and Bridgers also formed a supergroup of sorts, boygenius, with Lucy Dacus (who's also on the bill), and dropped an EP earlier this month. (*Moore Theatre*, 7:15 pm, all ages, \$26.) **ANDREW GOSPE**

SUN NOV 25



Contemporary Native American Music Showcase: Khu.éex', Indian Agent, Savage Family

FUNK/REGGAE At this multicultural show, you can celebrate Native American Heritage Month and the release of Khu.éex's third album. Pronounced "koo-eex," the collective shares the culture of the Tlingit, the indigenous people of Southeast Alaska. Their performances feature communal jazz, funk,

and spoken-word perspectives. *All I Sea*, Indian Agent's 2018 release, also emanates experimental folk musings. Their down-tempo sound collages, mixed by Erik Blood, are inspired by the trio's homes in Seattle and Sitka, Alaska. While yet unannounced, special guests are expected to speak throughout the night as well, including local social justice activists of color. (*Columbia City Theater*, 7 pm, all ages, \$10/\$13.) **AJ DENT**

Father, Danger Incorporated, Lil House Phone

HIPHOP/RAP Though you wouldn't guess it from his rather generic rap handle, LA-by-way-of-Atlanta artist Father knows the importance of a good name. The provocative titles of his first two albums (*Who's Gonna Get Fucked First?* and *I'm a Piece of Shit*) and the name of his label (Awful Records) concisely preview his self-deprecating style and offbeat sense of humor. His latest project, a mixtape released in collaboration with Cartoon Network's *Adult Swim*, is a strong but understated record, mixing Father's trademark debauchery and nonchalant flow with spare, tough production. It's introverted party music for that space between the living room and the club. (*Crocodile*, 8 pm, all ages, \$20.) **ANDREW GOSPE**

Telekinetic Yeti, Toke, Grim Earth, Swampheavy

METAL/PUNK True story: I listened to this two-piece from Iowa because of their name. I'm like, what does a Telekinetic Yeti sound like? Answer: fuzzed-out, crunchy, low-end heavy doom metal, like if you were walking through a dark forest, and maybe you were... a yeti, yes! Of course, you're a yeti. You've got long trailing hair and a beard with bits of leaves and moss stuck to it, and you've got fur sprouting from every orifice, you hairy fuck, and you smell ripe, and you've got a thousand years' worth of soil encrusted under your ragged fingernails, and the rumble and growl of guitars and the occasional roaring vocals are the sounds of your rumbling and growling and roaring out of a mouth of rotted teeth as you plow through that forest. Yeah, this is Yeti music, all right. Not sure about the Telekinetic part, though. That might be a bit of a stretch. (*The Funhouse*, 8 pm, \$10/\$12.) **LEILANI POLK**

TUES NOV 27

Squirrel Nut Zippers

JAZZ Squirrel Nut Zippers' "Hell" is one of the greatest, most underrated calypso-jumping swing-jazz songs ever, nestled amid a repertoire of classy, blithe, and fun tunes. The North Carolina ensemble build on their swinging roots with many different styles—gypsy jazz, klezmer, blues, exotica, etc.—and they call on a panoply of instruments to get to their lush, jumping, and slinking sound: guitar, banjo, fiddle, horns, keys, upright bass, percussion, and drums paired with male and female vocals that drip with '30s period appeal. Though they recently put out their first album in nine years, *Beasts of Burgundy*, we're also edging in on the holidays, and they just released a new single, "Mardi Gras for Christmas," and the squirrel on the festive green invite is wearing a Santa Claus hat so... expect some seasonal sounds. (*Crocodile*, 8 pm, \$30.) **LEILANI POLK**

WED NOV 28

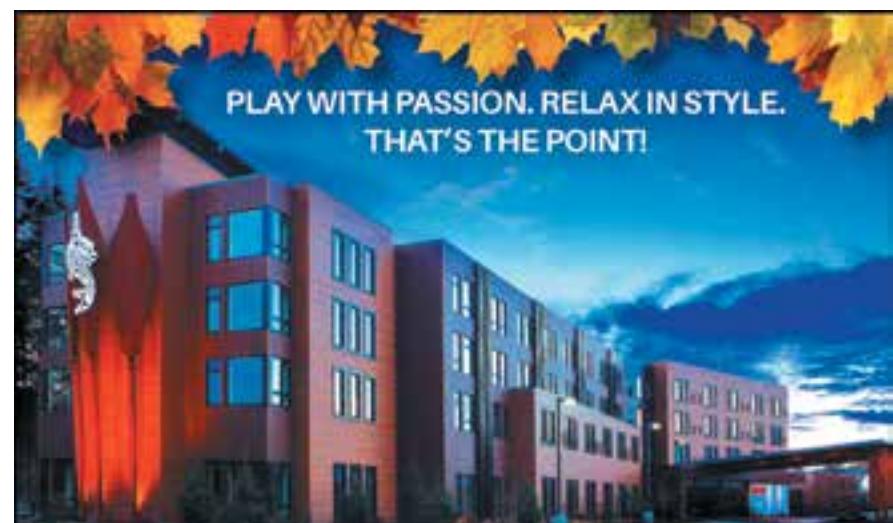
X, Elettrodomestico

METAL/PUNK It gives me no pleasure to concede that at least one member of the exemplary punk quartet X loves Trump, and thinks that the Sandy



DAVE SEGAL @editaurus

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Hook and Isla Vista killings didn't happen. I've been fond of the band for decades. I've savored their work, debated their work, pushed their work. But in the face of such things, I'm telling you—stick with the records, and avoid buying them new if at all possible. It pains me to say it. But these are trying times, even with November 6 on our side. We must pick a side. (*The Showbox*, 8:30 pm, \$30/\$35.) **ANDREW HAMLIN**

THURS NOV 29

Echo & the Bunnymen, Strings & Things, Enation

ROCK/POP There's a goth club we used to go to in Tampa called the Castle—well, it's not as goth as it used to be. Back in the day, when you'd go for Dark Wave Monday nights, if the DJ working the booth was feeling generous, you could request Echo & the Bunnymen—"Lips Like Sugar," "The Cutter," "The Killing Moon"—and he just might play it. I still have a soft spot for the English post-punk band that had their big come-up in the 1980s. Sure, they've put out lots of material since then—their 13th and latest *The Stars, the Oceans & the Moon*, is likely what has them on the road. But, face it, you're going to hear those old hits. You want to feel young again. (*Moore Theatre*, 8 pm, all ages, \$37-\$40.) **LEILANI POLK**



Neko Case, Destroyer

ROCK/POP A lot has changed since Neko Case was slinging hash at Hattie's Hat and go-go dancing at Girl Trouble shows. Since 1997, she's released seven studio albums, seven more with the New Pornographers, and one joint effort with k.d. lang and Laura Veirs. She's also moved from Chicago to Tucson to Vermont, but she's never abandoned Kelly Hogan and Carl Newman, who both appear on *Hell-On*, her most affecting release since *Fox Confessor Brings the Flood* (tragically, her farm burned down while she was recording it in Sweden). Another longtime collaborator, Dan Bejar of Destroyer, makes for the ideal tourmate. (*Paramount Theatre*, 8 pm, all ages, \$33-\$41 sold out.) **KATHY FENNESSY**

FRI NOV 30

DJ Roller Disko

DJ Roller disco is a long-lost art form that still thrives in a hardcore subculture of skating dancers, mostly in the Midwest (and at San Francisco's divine Church of 8 Wheels). But the irresistible combo of movin' and groovin' while rolling on hardwood is having a minor 21st-century revival in hipper circles, too, and a motley crew of local DJs have cobbled together a rare roller disco pop-up at Southgate Roller Rink in White Center. Pro tip: Roller-skating rewards sobriety. Don't drink/drug and dance (if you are on wheels), though there will also be a regular ol' dance floor if you don't want to lace up those skates. (*Southgate Roller Rink*, 9 pm-1 am, \$15/\$17.) **GREG SCRUGGS**

SAT DEC 1

Jarboe, Father Murphy

EXPERIMENTAL/NOISE Perhaps no other female singer-songwriter has had so much impact on the eldritch and occulted corner of popular music than Jarboe. Really, it's her and Diamanda Galás, and that's it. As a member of New York no-wave/industrial/doom-metal pioneers Swans, she brought a delicate and haunted quality to the realm of extreme rock music. That band ended when she left and never returned (sorry, Michael Gira). Later solo work and collaborations with Oakland post-metal originators Neurosis further cemented Jarboe's legacy. In spite of all this, she rarely tours. Her appearance at a venue so intimate as the Triple Door promises to be a treat. (*Triple Door*, 8 pm, all ages, \$22-\$30.) **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

John Maus

ROCK/POP For an artist whose erudite reputation is both well-documented and well-deserved—he holds a PhD in political philosophy—John Maus does well to balance his artsy proclivities and



MARK BLOWER

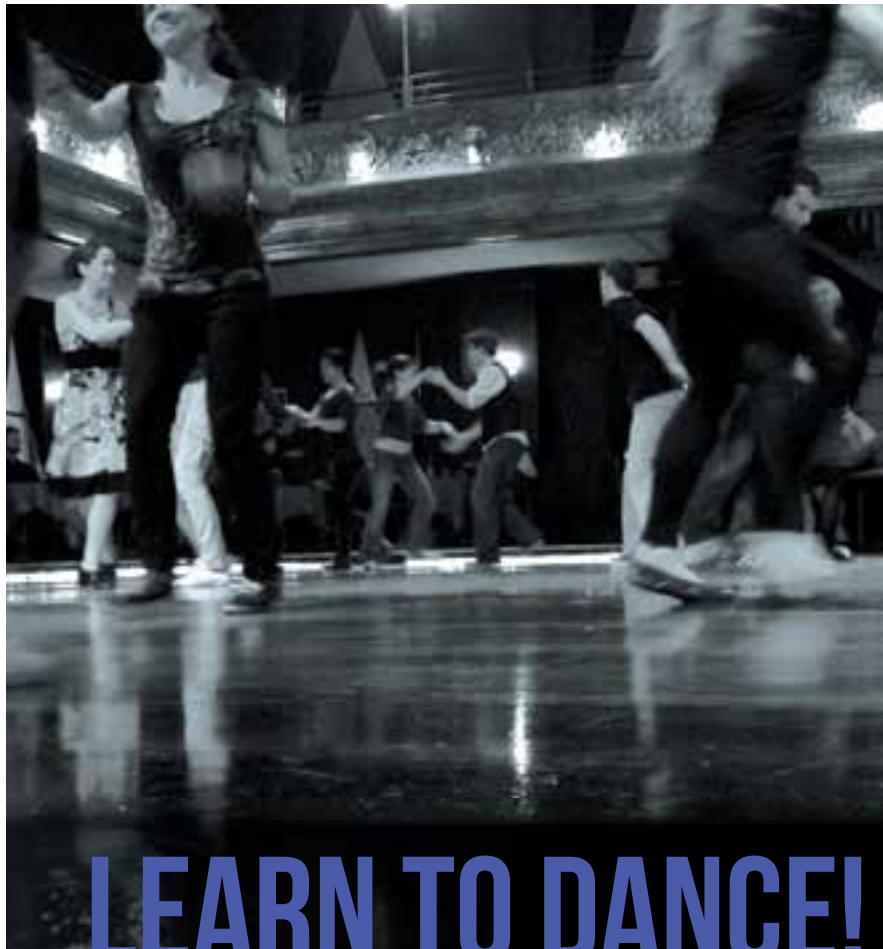
pure (if often kitschy) electropop. On last year's retro-leaning *Screen Memories*, he laces his tense, quasi-gothic music with his deadpan baritone vocals and some gorgeous synth work, in part the result of two years spent building his own modular synthesizer. Maus delivers an intense live show, this time amid some sad circumstances: The current tour is his first since brother and bandmate Joseph Maus died earlier this year. (*Washington Hall*, 7 pm, all ages, \$20.) **ANDREW GOSPE**

Magic Sword, Crystal Ghost

ELECTRONIC Boise, Idaho's Magic Sword slot comfortably into the *au courant* cold-blooded, horror-film-scoring synth revival spearheaded by acts like SURVIVE, Pye Corner Audio, Perturbator, and Umberto. Lumbering rhythms, majestic synth washes, Brian May-like guitar heroics, and doom-laden bass frequencies pervade their tracks. It's all very dramatic. There's some old fantasy backstory to Magic Sword and photos of the duo show them in masks and hooded robes, making them look like a combo of Daft Punk and Sunn O))). It's a cool gimmick, and the music ain't bad, either. (*Crocodile*, 8 pm, all ages, \$16.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Mavis Staples

JAZZ You know the Staple Singers from their R&B, soul, funk, and gospel-fused hits ("Respect Yourself," "I'll Take You There"), so you're already familiar with the youngest sibling of the family vocal group, Mavis Staples. She's got that warm, deep, enveloping vocal quality that feels like a hug. Her sound has gotten some modern polish and bluesy amble over her last four albums with Jeff Tweedy at the production helm and fruitful collabs with a cast list including Neko Case, Nick Cave, Valerie June, Merrill Garbus, and others. Last year's *If All I Was Was Black* was entirely written by Tweedy, who's admitted it's a political album. "There is something that feels complicit at this moment in time about not facing what is happening in this country head-on." Although "We Go High" feels a bit like a



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Saturday, December 1
Noon - 4:00pm & 5:30 - 9:30pm

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SHOW 8:00

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11.23 Friday (Electronic)
KAMINANDA at *High Dive*
Pressha, Zoa Flux

11.28 Wednesday (Americana)
BRAD PARSONS & STARBIRD
Heather Thomas Band, Chris King & The Gutterballs

11.29 Thursday (Funk/Hip-Hop)
BENEFIT SHOW FOR MUSIC MENTORSHIP with **MARSHALL LAW + BOOBOOLALA**
Kevin Kienecker

12.1 Saturday (Blues/Rock)
HILLSTOMP + SCOTT PEMBERTON BAND

12.2 Sunday (Hip-Hop)
LARRY JUNE with Special Guests

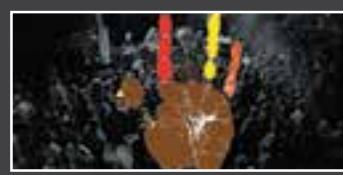
12.4 Tuesday (Hip-Hop)
DJ ABILITIES + GRASKUL
Dubldragon, Smoke M2D6, Diveyede, Progeny, GUNSGODSGHOSTS

12.8 Saturday (Reggae)
CLINTON FEARON
Boogie Brown Band, The Seattleites

12.12 Saturday (Hip-Hop)
FELLY with Gypps, Trip Carter

12.13 Thursday (Brass Bands)
BIG BRASS EXTRAVAGANZA
Ten Man Brass Band, Jonny Sonic, Vamola, Butt Dial

12.14 Friday (Funk/Party)
ELDRIDGE GRAYV & THE COURT SUPREME
The Cumbieros



11.21 & 11.23 Wednesday & Friday (Grateful Dead Tribute)

THANKFUL DEAD WITH ANDY COE BAND
Clinton Fearon (Friday Only)

11.24 Saturday (Bluegrass)

THE TRAVELIN' MCCOURYS
Jacob Jolliff Band, Danny Barnes

11.30 Friday (R&B)

THE MARÍAS + TRIATHALON
Kevin Krauter

12.1 Saturday (Hip-Hop)

ZION I at *High Dive*
Ayo Dot & The Uppercuts, B-Boy Fidget, Mr Hi-Def, Don Dishes

12.6 Thursday (Trip-Hop)

BLOCKHEAD + YPPAH
Arms & Sleepers

12.7 Friday (Bluegrass)

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- 12.19 **REEL ROCK 13**
- 12.20 **ELECTRIC FUNK HOLIDAY PARTY**
- 12.21 **TRL TOTAL REQUEST LIVE**
- 12.22 **THE GOLDEN ROAD**
- 12.27 **PLS&TY**
- 12.28 **KITCHEN DWELLERS + THE WARREN G. HARDINGS**
- 12.29 **KUINKA+DIRTY REVIVAL**
- 12.31 **STAR DUST NYE with BOWIEVISION**
- 1.4 **NAPPY ROOTS**
- 1.5 **LDW + TIGER TIGER**
- 1.8 **ALL STAR OPERA**
- 1.10 **LUSINE**
- 1.11 **ROBERT WALTER'S 20TH CONGRESS**
- 1.12 **PRINCE VS MJ**
- 1.13 **DAKH DAUGHTERS**
- 1.17 **THRIFTWORKS**
- 1.18 **CLASSIC HIP-HOP NIGHT**
- 1.19 **TOMORROWS BAD SEEDS**
- 1.24 **DANGER**
- 1.26 **ORGONE**
- 2.1 & 2.2 **SOLD OUT: GARAGE-A-TROIS**
- 2.3 **GARAGE-A-TROIS (3RD NIGHT ADDED!)**
- 2.7 **WARREN G**
- 2.17 **NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS**
- 3.2 **DANITY KANE**

THINGS TO DO → Music

grooving lecture, the album is otherwise a breeze. (Moore Theatre, 8 pm, \$40.) **LEILANI POLK**

Uniform, the Body, Author & Punisher, Street Sects

EXPERIMENTAL/NOISE This tour features three of the most unique acts in aggressive underground music. At the top of the bill is New York City-based duo Uniform, who play dirty, blown-out industrial heaviness with a snotty hardcore punk attitude, much like Ministry covering Minor Threat. Offering direct support is the Body, who've straddled the line between earth-crushing sludge metal and all-out noise on the 15-plus albums they've released since 2004. But it's Tristan Shone, aka Author & Punisher, who could easily steal this show, as his personally engineered instruments are both visually astonishing and custom-built for punishing industrial audio terror. (Chop Suey, 6 pm, \$12/\$14.) **KEVIN DIERS**

Zion I, Ayo Dot & the Uppercuts, B-Boy Fidget, Mr Hi-Def, Don Dishes

HIPHOP/RAP Berkeley-based rap duo Zion I, which met in Atlanta and formed in Oakland in 1996, have had a long and varied career. But MC Baba Zumbi and DJ/producer Amp Live, who infuses trip hop in his hiphop beats, have arguably written the West Coast anthem of the 2010s. Just watch the video for "Tech \$," a bitter paean to getting gentrified out of Oakland in 2016, and you'll want to show up in solidarity at the High Dive to sing along with your own tales of Amazonian woe. (High Dive, 8 pm, \$15/\$20.) **GREG SCRUGGS**

SUN DEC 2

The Chocolate Watchband, the Young Fresh Fellows, Knights of Trash

ROCK/POP The Chocolate Watchband threw down some peak psychedelic garage rock back on their first two LPs, *No Way Out* (1967) and *The Inner Mystique* (1968). These records sound at once utterly of their time and somehow vital as hell five decades later. Boasting the most on-point Mick Jagger imitator (David Aguilar, still in the fold) in a field crowded with the same in the mid-to-late 1960s, the Chocolate Watchband could rock with soul and speedy adrenaline, or bliss out on the sitar- and flute-augmented tip, if they so desired. (Play the devastatingly beautiful "Voyage of the Trieste" for proof of the latter.) Featuring three members from the group's heyday, the Watchband are 19 years into their comeback and surely grinding out the hits and deep cuts with pizzazz. (Tractor Tavern, 8 pm, \$25.) **DAVE SEGAL**

MON DEC 3

Elvis Costello & the Imposters

ROCK/POP It's been a long time since Elvis Costello had a new record worth discussing. After 2008's raw and wiry *Momofuku*, Costello hung up the Jazzmaster and donned a fedora, taking up

a dilettantish interest in Americana that lasted the length of two conceptually intriguing if wearisome records: 2009's *Secret, Profane & Sugarcane* and 2010's *National Ransom*. Even the Roots—who collaborated with Costello on 2013's *Wise Up Ghost*—couldn't properly reinvigorate the songwriter. Costello's new record, *Look Now*, is a welcome return to form. In addition to featuring some of his most inspired songwriting in decades, highlights such as "Under Lime" and "Stripping Paper" recall the dense symphonic pageantry of Costello's underrated early 1980s masterpieces, *Trust* and *Imperial Bedroom*. (Paramount Theatre, 8 pm, all ages, \$45-\$65.) **MORGAN TROPER**



Gucci Mane

JONATHAN MANNION

Gucci Mane, Carnage, Smokepurpp, Hoodrich Pablo Juan, Asian Doll

HIPHOP/RAP Since being released from a two-year prison sentence in 2016 for firearm possession, Gucci Mane has a new lease on life. The rap icon lost weight, got married, wrote a memoir, and is recording new music like he's making up for lost time—December's forthcoming *Evil Genius* will be his 11th release since getting out of jail. Little of Gucci Mane's recent output matches the genre-defining urgency of early work like *Trap House*, but he's still one of rap's most distinctive stylists. And owing to his new, healthier lifestyle, we can expect to be hearing from Gucci for a long time. (Showbox Sodo, 8 pm, all ages, \$40/\$45.) **ANDREW GOSPE**

TUES DEC 4

How to Dress Well

ELECTRONIC Tom Krell's bedroom R&B project *How to Dress Well* arrived at a moment when such sounds were trendy—if you must, google "PBR&B"—but he's transcended that old label and steadily improved as a producer. New album *The Anteroom* strays farther than Krell ever has from artfully distressed R&B. As usual, his reedy tenor is masked in reverb and other



Elvis Costello

JAMES OMARA

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SUN DEC 9 TRINITY PARISH CHURCH | SEATTLE | 2:30PM

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THINGS TO DO → Music

digital processing, but the sounds in the background—faded synth drifts, diffuse electronic textures, gently propulsive rhythms—are beautifully detailed. It's not quite R&B, not quite ambient, not quite club music, and all the product of an artist who continues to grow. (*Kremwerk*, 8 pm, *all ages*, \$15.) **ANDREW GOSPE**

Shad

HIPHOP/RAP Vancouver rapper Shad lyrically threads Cornel West-erudite rhymes with Glasper-savvy jazz hooks, and does it all with sanguine poignancy. The 36-year-old recently dropped his sixth studio album, *A Short Story About a War*—a voracious stick of dynamic TNT that once again showcases his observational wit, ever-listening ear to the ground, and even our denizen depravity. To contextualize his cred, he also hosted the HBO Canada-aired music documentary series *Hip-Hop Evolution*, where he dug up treasured histories with living legends of hiphop, wherein he carries this caliber of chops with him onstage and in the world. (*Barboza*, 8 pm, \$12.) **ZACH FRIMMEL**



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

backed by esteemed cumbia musicians, building a blaze at their live shows, both from the stage and on the dance floor. (*Showbox Sodo*, 8 pm, *all ages*, \$28/\$30.) **AJ DENT**

Pylon Reenactment Society, Soft Reputation

ROCK/POP Feisty post-punks Pylon released two stunning albums in the 1980s—*Gyrate* and *Chomp*—that should have been at least two-thirds as popular as the releases of fellow Athens, Georgia, contemporaries R.E.M. and the B-52s. But alas, Pylon just couldn't slash their way beyond cult status. With Pylon Reenactment Society, original vocalist Vanessa Briscoe Hay and some Athens all-stars from the Glands and Casper & the Cookies resurrect the dynamic Pylon catalog for a new generation. Because these tense, tantalizing rock songs deserve never to fade from (un)popular consciousness. Maybe this tour will prompt some magnanimous label to reissue Pylon's catalog, which remains scandalously out of print. (*Barboza*, 8 pm, \$13.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Thou, MJ Guider

METAL/PUNK New Orleans sludge outfit Thou are no stranger to these parts. Road warriors and avid collaborators, Thou love to play music and they love to play it loud. They love it so much, in fact, that they've released multiple records in multiple genres this year alone, and their new full-length, *Magus*, is maybe the pinnacle of their output. All of which is to say, just because they were here at Northwest Terror Fest in June doesn't mean they don't have new tricks up their sleeve for when they promise to level the Vera Project stage—seriously, they like to play *loud*. Bring earplugs. (*Vera Project*, 8 pm, *all ages*, \$10/\$12.) **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

MORE StrangerThingsToDo.com

WED DEC 5

Bomba Estéreo

WORLD/LATIN Colombian duo Bomba Estéreo bring their bombast back to Seattle on their international *Jungla Tour*. Ayo, their 2017 LP, fires out tropical pop and electronic beat drops. Lead singer Li Saumet glides between blustery Spanglish rapping and breeze-soft indulgences. "Me quemó por dentro," she confesses in "El Alma y El Cuerpo"—"I'm burning inside"—and this seems a perfect motto for the entire unabashedly bouncy project. While primarily a creative duo, Saumet and keyboardist/bassist Simón Mejía are frequently

Short List

6/22, Summer Walker, Deante Hitchcock
Showbox Sodo, Fri Nov 30, 9 pm, all ages, \$30/\$35 (sold out)

Apple Jam
Neptune Theatre, Sat Dec 1, 8 pm, all ages, \$24/\$34

Avery Leigh's Night Palace, iji, Lake
Vera Project, Wed Nov 28, 7:15 pm, all ages, \$7/\$10

Corey Harper, XYLO, Gavin Haley
Barboza, Mon Nov 26, 8 pm, \$10

Deadbeats Seattle
WaMu Theater, Fri Nov 30, 6:30 pm, \$42

Dom Kennedy
Neptune Theatre, Thurs Nov 29, 9 pm, all ages, \$24

An Evening with the Chris Robinson Brotherhood
The Showbox, Fri Nov 30, 8 pm, \$25/\$28

An Evening with The Tallest Man On Earth
Neptune Theatre, Sat Nov 24, 8 pm, all ages, \$35 (sold out)

Excision Presents: The Thunderdome
Tacoma Dome, Fri Nov 23, 7 pm, \$50/\$70

Jane Lynch: "A Swingin' Little Christmas"
Edmonds Center for the Arts, Sat Nov 24, 7:30 pm, \$39-\$74

JMSN
Crocodile, Wed Dec 5, 8 pm, all ages, \$17

Kweku Collins, Joseph Chilliams
Neumos, Thurs Nov 29, 8 pm, all ages, \$14

Larry June, Guests
Nectar, Sun Dec 2, 8 pm, \$15/\$17

Louis The Child, Big Wild, NoMBe, Wafia
WaMu Theater, Sat Dec 1, 8 pm, \$43

Over the Rhine with Mary Gauthier
Triple Door, Nov 27-28, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$25-\$55

Pickwick, SHT GHST
Tractor Tavern, Nov 30-Dec 1, 9 pm, \$15

SMoCCH: Seattle Musicians for Children's Hospital
The Showbox, Sat Dec 1, 9 pm, \$75-\$250

Steve Gadd Band with Kevin Hays, Jimmy Johnson, Michael Landau, and Walt Fowler
Jazz Alley, Nov 29-Dec 2, Nov 30-Dec 1, \$41

Triathlon, The Marias
Nectar, Fri Nov 30, 8 pm, \$15/\$18



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PRINCE TRIBUTE

12/31, 10PM

8PM
10PM

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Thursday 11/29

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Sunday 12/2
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CUPCAKKE



WEDNESDAY 12/5
YOB
THRONES + UN



THURSDAY 12/6
WHITEY MORGAN
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SUNDAY 12/9
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SATURDAY 12/22
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WILD CHILD



WEDNESDAY 1/23
MOTHER MOTHER



THURSDAY 1/24
GIRLPOOL
HATCHIE



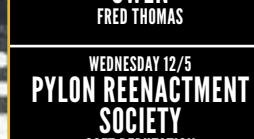
SATURDAY 11/24
MACNTAJ
KARMA KNOWS + NOBI



MONDAY 11/26
COREY HARPER + XYLO
GAVIN HALEY



FRIDAY 11/23
SLOUCHER
RED RIBBON + SNUFF REDUX



FRIDAY 11/30
OWEN
FRED THOMAS



SATURDAY 12/1
YOUNG-CHAYLEE
HARRISON B



TUESDAY 12/4
SHAD



WEDNESDAY 12/5
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SOFT REPUTATION



THURSDAY 12/6
VALLEY MAKER
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FRIDAY 12/7
ADVANCE BASE
LISA/LIZA



THURSDAY 12/13
EMMA RUTH RUNDLE
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OCEANWIRES
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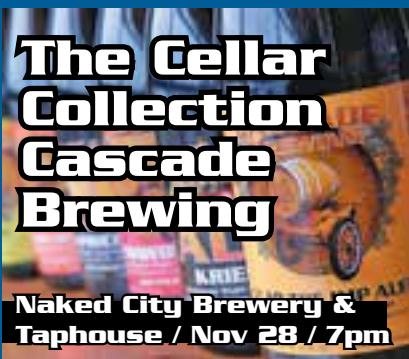
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11/28
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featuring: Stag
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11/29
THURSDAY



*The Crocodile Presents:
Eve 6
Party Nails, Somme 21 & Over*

11/29
THURSDAY



*The Crocodile Presents:
The Dig @ The Sunset
Hustle & Drone 21 & Over*

12/1
SATURDAY



*The Crocodile Presents:
John Maus
@ Washington Hall
Profit Prison All Ages*

12/1
SATURDAY



*The Crocodile Presents:
Magic Sword
Crystal Ghost All Ages*

FEATURED



Sat 1/5
YOUNG
DOLPH
@ THE SHOWBOX



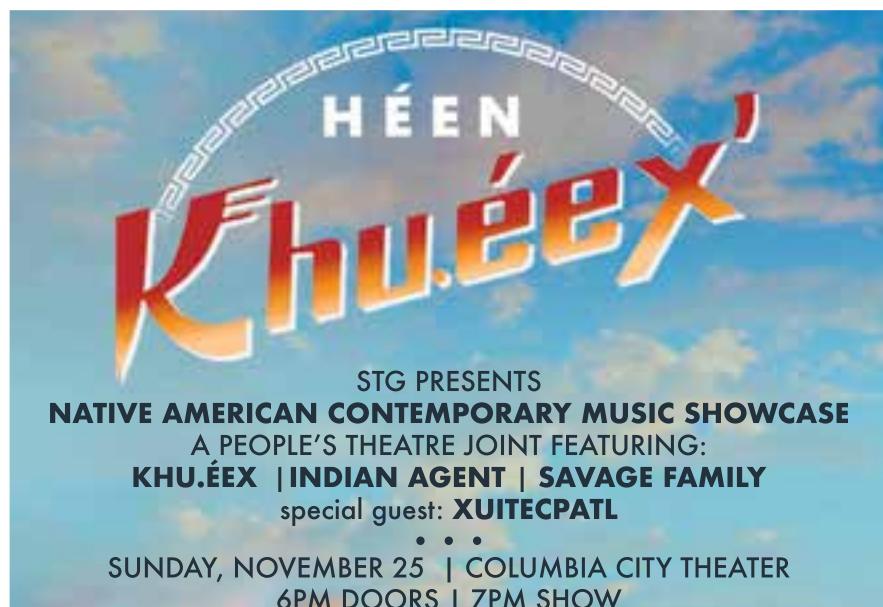
Sun 3/17
SASHA
SLOAN



Tue 3/26
LAURA JANE
GRACE
AND THE
DEVOURING
MOTHERS

12/2 ALEC BENJAMIN 12/3 P-LO @ CHOP SUEY 12/4 LEMAIRE 12/5 JMSN 12/6 BROTHERS FROM ANOTHER
12/7 PJ MORTON 12/8 WHITE PANDA 12/9 JUSTIN COURTNEY PIERRE 12/10 EZRA FURMAN 12/11 FUCKED
UP 12/12 SAINT JHN 12/13 POLO & PAN 12/14 NITE WAVE 12/15 NITE WAVE 12/16 PROTOMARTYR /
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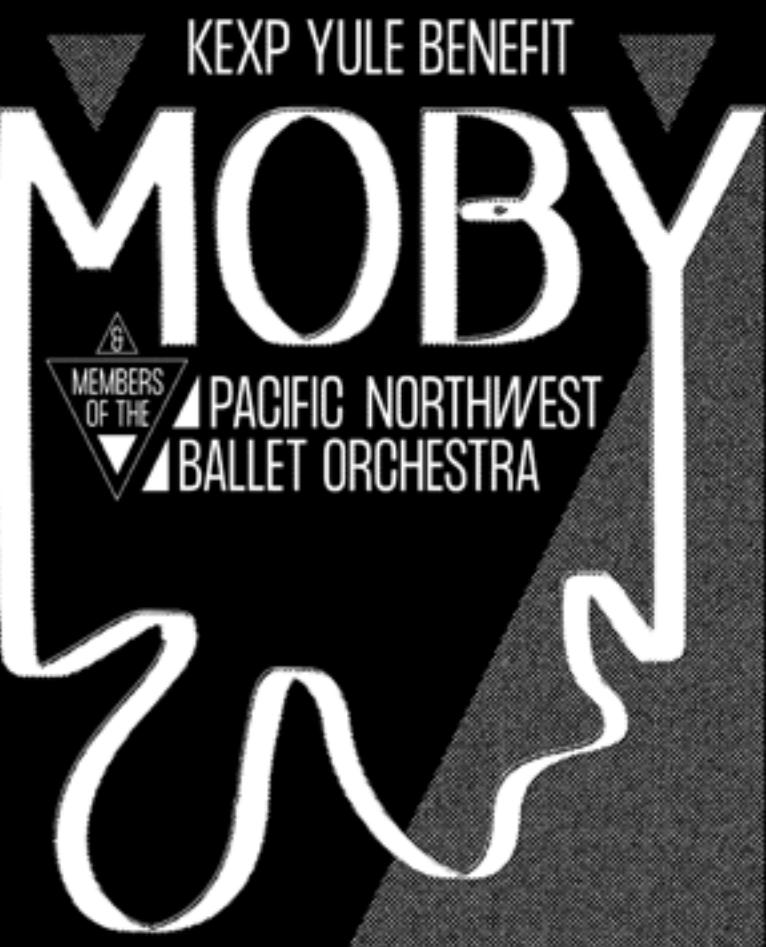
Let Seattle know where to ring in 2019 in our New Year's Eve calendar section, the most comprehensive guide to NYE events in the city!

ON STANDS DEC 19

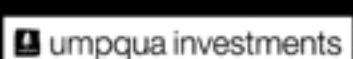
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THINGS TO DO → Music

Thurs 11/22

DJ

LUCKY LIQUOR Lucky Liquor
Orphan Dinner with DJs Lauren G & Aaron E, 6 pm, free

Fri 11/23

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Sloucher, Red Ribbon, Snuff Redux, 7 pm, \$12

CONOR BYRNE Ball of Wax #54 with Cupholders, Zachary Warnes, Daphnes, Kevin Sur, 9 pm-12 am, \$8

CROCODILE shallou, 7 pm, \$14/\$16

EDEN SEATTLE Liv Warfield, 8-10 pm, 10 pm-12 am, \$17-\$25

EL CORAZON Assemblage 23, Auditorio, Watch Clark, 9 pm, \$15/\$20

THE FUNHOUSE Shubzilla, Bill Beats, Guests, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

HIGH DIVE Kaminanda, Pressha, Zoa Flux, 8 pm, \$13/\$15

HIGHWAY 99 Annual Day After Thanksgiving Bash with Patti Allen & Monster Road, 8 pm, \$16-\$26

LO-FI Devilwood, Swangos, The Skookumchuck Groove, 9 pm

NECTAR "Thankful Dead" with Andy Coe Band, 9 pm, \$16-\$30

NEPTUNE THEATRE Seattle's Tribute to the Last Waltz, 8 pm, \$24/\$29

NEUMOS Pedro the Lion, Chris Staples, 8 pm, \$22/\$25

THE ROYAL ROOM You Say You Want a Revolution? Seattle Musicians Honor the 50th Anniversary of The Beatles' White Album, 6:30 pm, 9:30 pm, \$15/\$20

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Zander Yates, Aliaia, Jesse Stout, 3-6 pm, \$5-\$10

SLIM'S LAST CHANCE CHILI SHACK AND WATERING HOLE Gutter Demons, Lucitones, Brainiax, Avery Wolves, 7 pm, \$10

SUNSET TAVERN Intisara, Lorna Rousseau, Johnduis + Paul, 9 pm, \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN Best of the NW, 8 pm, \$20/\$30

TRIPLE DOOR The Paperboys 12th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Meltdown, \$25/\$30

HIGH DIVE Brianna Skye & the Dark Clouds, Timberfoot, VAENS, Palatine Trio, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

HIGHWAY 99 Lloyd Jones & The Struggle, 8 pm, \$19/\$29

LO-FI Autopilot, Graduation, Meanderthals, Brother Tank, 9 pm, \$10

NEPTUNE THEATRE Julien Baker with Phoebe Bridgers & Lucy Dacus, 7:15 pm, \$26

NECTAR The Travelin' McCourys, Jacob Jolliff Band, Danny Barnes, 8 pm, \$16-\$30

PARLIAMENT TAVERN Swindler, Fresh Track, 8 pm-12 am

PHINNEY CENTER COMMUNITY HALL Seattle Folklore Society: West My Friend, 7:30 pm, \$9-\$18

SHOWBOX SODO G Jones, 9 pm, \$20-\$30

THE SHOWBOX Polyrhythms, Kelly Finnigan & The Atonement, 9 pm, \$25/\$30

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Zander Yates, Aliaia, Jesse Stout, 3-6 pm, \$5-\$10

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CLASSICAL/OPERA

THE ROYAL ROOM Orca Concert Series: Trio Pathetique, 5 pm, \$12/\$15

TRINITY PARISH CHURCH Byrd Ensemble: A German Christmas, 7:30-9 pm, \$18-\$28

DJ

HARD ROCK CAFE Diwali Bash with DJ Paroma, 9 pm-2 am, \$10

KREMWERK Rough Draft: Leftovers with Alfonso Tan & Stefan Schell, 10 pm-3 am, \$10

SUBSTATION Black Friday Brian and Curtis Birthday Fest, 7 pm-12 am, \$10/\$15

SUNSET TAVERN The Souleclist Tour with TyuS and Guests, 9 pm, \$15-\$40

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DJ

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DJ

SOUTHGATE ROLLER RINK Roller Disko, 9 pm-1 am, \$15/\$17

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Steve Gadd Band with Kevin Hays, Jimmy Johnson, Michael Landau, and Walt Fowler, \$41

TULA'S Jacqueline Tabor Jazz Band, 7:30-10:30 pm, \$20

Sat 12/1**LIVE MUSIC**

BARBOZA Young-Chhayglee, Harrison B, 7 pm, \$10

CENTRAL SALOON Peyote Ugly, Dusty, SWYM, Salt Lick, 8 pm-12 am, \$7/\$10

CHOP SUEY Uniform, The Body, Author & Punisher, Street Sects, 6 pm, \$12/\$14

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Novo Amor, Mree, 7 pm, sold out

CROCODILE Magic Sword, 8 pm, \$16

EL CORAZON The Faceless, Rings of Saturn, The Last Ten Seconds of Life, Vale of Phnath, Interloper, 6:30 pm, \$20/\$22

HIGH DIVE Zion I, Ago Dot & The Uppercuts, B-Boy Fidget, Mr Hi-Def, Don Dishes, 8 pm, \$15

HIGHLINE Dead Fucking Last, NoiSe, Ground Score, Toecutter, 9 pm, \$12/\$14

HIGHWAY 99 Rockin' Johnny Burgin, 8 pm, \$17-\$27

NECTAR Hillstomp, Scott Pemberton Band, 8 pm, \$11/\$15

NEUMOS Said The Sky, 8 pm, \$15

THE ROYAL ROOM Not Your Average Holiday Concert with Last Call, 5 pm, \$15

SNOQUALMIE CASINO Ainel Pineda, 6 pm, \$88-\$158

SUBSTATION Noise 4 Toys 4: Toys for Tots Benefit, 9 pm-2 am, \$5

SUNSET TAVERN Vaudeville Etiquette, The Weather Machine, Kilid Band, 9 pm, \$10

★ TRACTOR TAVERN Pickwick, SHT GHST, 9 pm, \$15

★ TRIPLE DOOR Jarboe, Father Murphy, 8 pm, \$22-\$30

VERA PROJECT Lauren Sanderson, Sizzyl Rocket, 8 pm, \$12-\$65

★ WASHINGTON HALL John Maus, 7 pm, \$20

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Steve Gadd Band with Kevin Hays, Jimmy Johnson, Michael Landau, and Walt Fowler, \$41

★ MOORE THEATRE Mavis Staples, 8 pm, \$40-\$50

★ TULA'S Bill Anschell Standards Trio, 7:30-10:30 pm, \$20

Sun 12/2**LIVE MUSIC**

CROCODILE Alec Benjamin, Kyle Nicolaides, 8 pm, \$12

MOORE THEATRE Crush, 8 pm, \$47-\$97

RENDEZVOUS Moon Heist, The Languid Current, Heir Apparent, 6:30 pm, \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN The Chocolate Watchband, The Young Fresh Fellows, Knights of Trash, 8 pm, \$25

CLASSICAL/OPERA

★ BENAROYA HALLS.

MARK TAPER FOUNDATION

AUDITORIUM The Tenors, 7:30 pm, \$45-\$210

★ TRIPLE DOOR Global Rhythms: Mamak Khadem, 7 pm, \$20

DJ

LO-FI Mama's Thirsty: A Queer Lady Hangout, 8 pm-12 am, \$10

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Steve Gadd Band with Kevin Hays, Jimmy Johnson, Michael Landau, and Walt Fowler, \$41

★ PARAMOUNT THEATRE Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox, 8 pm, \$46-\$201

Mon 12/3**LIVE MUSIC**

CHOP SUEY P-Lo, ALLBLACK, Another Party Fam, 7 pm, \$17/\$20

CLOUD ROOM Spirited Piano with Shenandoah Davis, 5:30-7:30 pm, free

EL CORAZON The Number Twelve Looks Like You, Rolo Tomasi, Arsonists Get All The Girls, 7 pm, \$15/\$18

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Elvis Costello & The Imposters, 8 pm, \$45-\$65

SHOWBOX SODO Gucci Mane, Carnage, Smokepurpp, Hoodrich Pablo Juan, 8 pm, \$40/\$45

THE SHOWBOX Pinback, 8:30 pm, \$20/\$22

JAZZ

★ KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER UW Gospel Choir, 7:30 pm, \$10

RENDEZVOUS The Sirens Of Swing 7:30 pm, \$20

Tues 12/4**LIVE MUSIC**

BARBOZA Shad, 8 pm, \$12

CHOP SUEY Koo Koo Kangaroo, 6 pm, \$15/\$18

CROCODILE Lemaître, 8:30 pm, \$18/\$22

EL CORAZON Doyle, Zero Down, Cryptamnesia, One Gun Shy, 7:30 pm, \$7.50-\$20

HIGH DIVE Tonight at Noon, Prize the Wild, Modern Day Astronaut, Watership, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

SHOWBOX SODO Barry Dean, Cassadee Pope, Bailey Bryan, Sam Palladio, 7 pm, \$25

SUNSET TAVERN Suuns, Guests, 8 pm, \$16

TRACTOR TAVERN Jim Lauderdale, Guests, 8 pm, \$20

CLASSICAL/OPERA

★ TRIPLE DOOR Jean-Michel Blais, 7:30 pm, \$16-\$20

DJ

NECTAR DJ Abilities & Grayskul, Guests, 7 pm, \$15

JAZZ

★ MOORE THEATRE Mavis Staples, 8 pm, \$40-\$50

★ TULA'S Bill Anschell Standards Trio, 7:30-10:30 pm, \$20

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Mike Stern Band with Dave Weckl, Bob Malach, and Tom Kennedy, 7:30 pm, \$35

★ THE ROYAL ROOM Cascadia Big Band Christmas Show, 7:30 pm, free

Wed 12/5**LIVE MUSIC**

BARBOZA Pylon Reenactment Society, Soft Reputation, 8 pm, \$13

EL CORAZON Capsize, Thousand Below, Dead Lakes, 6:30 pm, \$12/\$14

HIGHLINE Warwound, Plight, Open Veins, Anoxia, 9 pm, \$10/\$12

MOORE THEATRE Tommie Emmanuel, Jerry Douglas, 8 pm, \$27-\$42

NEUMOS Yob, 8 pm, \$18

★ SHOWBOX SODO Bomba Estéreo, 8 pm, \$28/\$30

THE SHOWBOX Anuhea, 8 pm, \$25-\$30

SNOQUALMIE CASINO Little Steven, 7:30 pm, \$29-\$49

SUNSET TAVERN Sebastian and the Deep Blue, Camel Bones, Guests, 8 pm, \$8

VERA PROJECT Thou, MJ Guider, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$12

DJ

SOUTHGATE ROLLER RINK Madonna vs Lady Gaga Pride Skate, 8:30-11:30 pm

Cummin' Up

THU 11/22 The Audience is Listening

FRI 11/23 Be Stiff!

SAT 11/24 Luv Ladder

SUN 11/25 World's Tiniest Tea Dance 4-9

TUE 11/27 I Hate Karaoke

WED 11/28 Bloodlust

THU 11/29 Hot Love

FRI 11/30 Audiodrome

SAT 12/1 Medical Rx Nite

SUN 12/2 World's Tiniest Tea Dance 4-9

MON 12/3 Fruit

TUE 12/4 I Hate Karaoke

Pony
Happy Hour
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**HIGHLINE**

WEEKLY ON
MONDAYS:
FUCK YEAH BINGO
7-9PM

Wednesday, November 21

FISTER

Ilisa
Heiress
Foul

9PM \$12-\$14

Sunday, November 25

CAMPFIRE

8PM \$7-\$10

Monday, November 26

UADA

Dead In The Manger,
Eye of Nix, Blood Atonement

9PM \$14-\$17

Tuesday, November 27

CASTLE

Kings Of Cavalier
Kömand

9PM \$10-\$13

Saturday, December 1

DEAD FUCKING LAST

NoiSe
Ground Score
Toecutter

9PM \$12-\$14

Wednesday, December 5

WARWOUND PLIGHT

Open Veins
Anoxia

9PM \$10-\$12

Friday, December 7

HAIL SANTA! DAY 1**MORTA SKULD**

Petrification
Xoth
Aethereus
Dullahan

Kömand

7PM \$18-\$20

Saturday, December 8

HAIL SANTA! DAY 2**KHÔRADA**

Eight Bells

Exulansis

Age of Nefilim

Vulnere

Odyssian

7PM \$18-\$20

Saturday, December 29

BLOODSOAKED

Blackqueen

Greyhawk

9PM \$10-\$12

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THINGS TO DO → *Film*

Facing Human Extinction

Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival presents a philosopher for a planet in crisis.

BY CHARLES MUDEDE

The world as we know it is in rapid decline.

The cause of this decline is without question a mode of human/cultural metabolism that has, unfortunately, unlimited growth as its only condition of existence. This cultural form (the political economy known as capitalism) has resulted in a "metabolic rift."

Put another way: The historically specific mode of wealth generation that has

DONNA HARAWAY: STORY TELLING FOR EARTHLY SURVIVAL
dir. Fabrizio Terranova
Nov 29-Dec 2,
Northwest Film
Forum

dominated human life since its emergence in 17th-century Europe is, it turns out, totally alien from its very own planet. The wealth generation is infinite; the planet is rudely limited. The rift between the two is not only growing but closing down an old and roughly 12,000-year-old global system of life—and evidently opening a new, pretty much unknown one.

In the weirdly peaceful documentary *Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival*, the philosopher Donna Haraway sees the current crisis (some call it the Anthropocene, others the Capitalocene; I prefer the former) not as the end of life on earth but as the transformation (or rearrangement) of "ways of living and dying." In short, life can and will continue after the extinction of humans (a young species).



COURTESY OF ICARUS FILMS

It's a weirdly peaceful documentary, given the subject is our own demise.

But if humans want to address the problem or hope to reverse the ongoing climate crisis, they must change their ways of living and dying on a cultural level. And it's important that humans distinguish what is natural from what is cultural. Though one (culture)

is embedded in the other (nature), its rate of evolution is much, much faster. This fact is lost when nature (slow) is confused with culture (fast).

Haraway's work and personal life, which she describes in one section of the docu-

mentary, has been about "redoing ways of living and dying" that break not only with the political economy of unlimited growth but also with what she calls "heteronormative joy" (marriage, children, single-family homes, so on).

Haraway does not stop there. If she did, she would be a Marxist, a tradition she admires but, as she says in the documentary, she thinks fails because it's a totalizing narrative. Haraway imagines a revolution of human culture that precisely displaces the centrality of the human animal.

Some call her philosophy post-human. I call it cultural realism. And the last 15 minutes of the documentary perfectly capture the tone of this darkling modality.

You are not human; you are, instead, a metabolic process that is made possible, directly and indirectly, by other metabolic processes. This is the symbiotic planet of the late biologist Lynn Margulis. It's also the feminist sociobiology of Sarah Hrdy.

Margulis dealt with the ambience of life (microorganisms). Hrdy investigates the roots of human sociality. Haraway, in her work and in this documentary, critiques the cultural productions of this sociality. Her philosophy also constructs new modes of living and dying that weirdly resemble Margulis's ambient symbiotic planet. The last part of this documentary is serenely ambient. ■

Top Picks

NOV 23-27

'Enter the Dragon'

I first watched Bruce Lee's 1973 masterpiece *Enter the Dragon* in 1986 at Liberty Cinema in Harare, Zimbabwe. This was a perfect theater for the film. Liberty was the people's theater; the rich stayed away from it. Poor people did not enjoy films in the proper manner: They talked all the time and seemed indifferent to the plot. All they wanted was action—and *Enter the Dragon* has lots of it. The film is about some pimp/drug dealer and a martial-arts competition on an island and a CIA agent. The scenes that connect its story were ignored at the Liberty. The hoi polloi talked when the actors talked. But the moment Bruce Lee began doing his wushu thing, all eyes were on the screen. Lee made movies for the people. (Central Cinema, \$2-\$10.) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

NOV 23-DEC 6

'Searching for Ingmar Bergman'

There are brilliant filmmakers, smart filmmakers, and intellectual filmmakers. My definition of an intellectual movie is a work that comes closest to reaching the depth of literature—the highest form of intellectual art. *Searching for Ingmar Bergman* is a documentary by Margarethe von Trotta, an intellectual filmmaker. Her last documentary was about the German Jewish philosopher Hannah Arendt. Her new film explores the life and deep mind of Ingmar Bergman, the Swedish director who made high art out of cinema. (*Grand Illusion*, \$9.) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

WED NOV 28

Short Circuit Pacific Rim Film Festival

The Short Circuit Pacific Rim Film Festival is the only one of its kind in the world, a festival dedicated to short indie movies created (as the title suggests) in Pacific Rim territories. Presented

by CineVic Society of Independent Filmmakers in Victoria, BC, and spanning more than 30 countries in 2018, Short Circuit is hitting the road for the first time, bringing nine of its most exceptional shorts on the road. These include the three-minute sibling-rivalry-fueled *Phømily Feud* from Seattle, the charmingly animated South Korean short *The Realm of Deepest Knowing*, and *Gwala Rising*, a Papua New Guinea/Portland collab that focuses on the Pacific Islanders' use of ancient conservation efforts to sustain their marine ecosystems. (Northwest Film Forum, 7 pm, \$12.) **LEILANI POLK**

NOV 30-DEC 3

'Gremlins'

Gremlins still holds up 34 years after its original release. The very retro-ness of this comedy-horror-holiday flick adds to its charm. The mix of humor and scares still stands up, the mogwai is still too cute for its own good, the gremlins birthed from it are still disgustingly funny and frightening, and the implausible story still draws you in. A man brings home the ultimate Christmas gift for his teenage son, an exotic pet he found in Chinatown

that comes with very specific (and vital) care instructions that must be followed (don't get him wet, don't feed him after midnight, don't expose him to light). Of course, it wouldn't be a movie if he cared for the furry little creature properly. (Central Cinema, \$5-\$10.) **LEILANI POLK**

SAT DEC 1

'Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World'

Catherine Bainbridge's important documentary traces the impact that Native American musicians have made on blues, rock, jazz, hiphop, and heavy metal. Using Link Wray's menacing 1958 instrumental "Rumble" as its anchor (akin to *Do the Right Thing*'s use of Public Enemy's "Fight the Power"), Bainbridge relates stories of several influential, distinctive performers, including the Band's Robbie Robertson, activist folkie Buffy Sainte-Marie, Mildred Bailey, Charley Patton, and a cat named Jimi Hendrix. *Rumble* asserts the primacy and resiliency of Native culture despite the government's concerted efforts to suppress and erase it. (Central Library, 4 pm, free.) **DAVE SEGAL**

THINGS TO DO → Film

ONGOING

'Creed II'

Michael B. Jordan, Sylvester Stallone, and Tessa Thompson are back for the sequel to the reboot of the *Rocky* series, because with these types of films, there's always another bigger, badder guy to fight. I'll admit that I cried watching *Creed* while on a plane. I don't know if it was the story of triumph, Jordan's perfect abs, or the cabin pressure that opened my tear ducts, but the first installment hit all the right notes without veering too much into formulaic cheese. I'm sure this flick will have a little something for everyone—high stakes, romance, spit beautifully shot flying across the ring. Bring the whole family! (Wide release.) **LEILANI POLK**

MORE StrangerThingsToDo.com

Short List

Casablanca

Central Cinema, Nov 23-27, \$5-\$10

Charm City

Northwest Film Forum, Nov 23-25, \$12

The Great Buster

Grand Illusion, Nov 30-Dec 13, \$9

Holidays on Ice
SIFF Film Center, Nov 23-Dec 16, \$11/\$14

Maria by Callas

AMC Pacific Place, opening Fri Nov 23

Museo

Northwest Film Forum, Nov 23-29, \$12

Night Heat: Lilith

Seattle Art Museum, Thurs Nov 29, \$9

Sleepless in Seattle

Various locations, Dec 2 & 5, \$13

JASMYNE KEIMIG

'Green Book'

A based-on-a-true-story road-trip flick that finds a white dude brute (Viggo Mortensen, who gained an extra 30 pounds to play bouncer-turned-chaufer-and-bodyguard Tony Lip) driving a cultured black man (Oscar-winner Mahershala Ali as Jamaican jazz pianist Don Shirley) to a series of concert dates in the Jim Crow South of

Early Warnings

THE FAVOURITE SIFF Cinema Egyptian, opening Fri Dec 7, \$11/\$14

SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE Wide release, opening Fri Dec 14

MORTAL ENGINES Wide release, opening Fri Dec 14

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2 FOR 1 RENTAL WEDNESDAY

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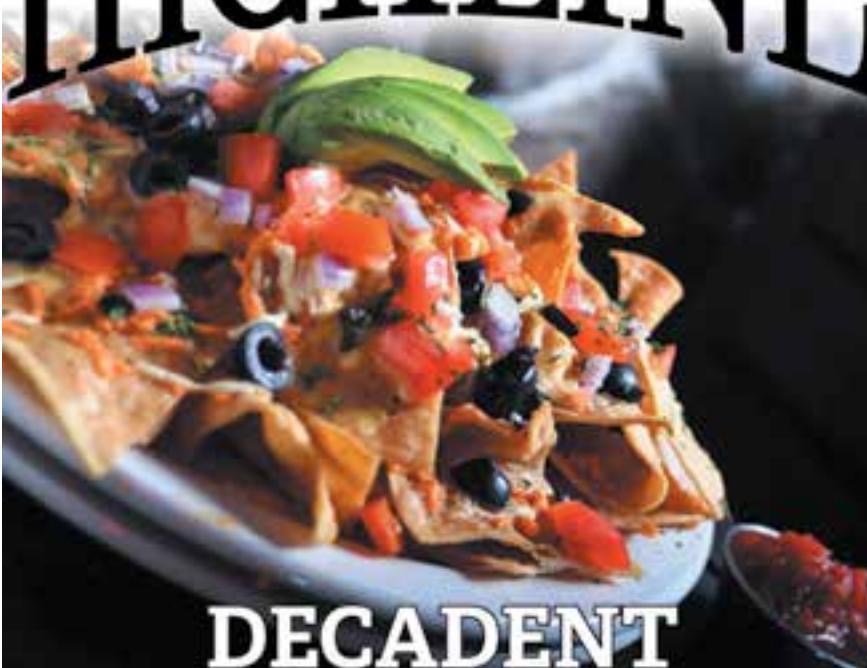
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THINGS TO DO → Food & Drink

Rock 'n' Roll Tacos

Carmelo's Tacos, hidden inside Hillcrest Market, is Capitol Hill's best new taco joint.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

On a recent trip to Hillcrest Market, a mini-mart at Summit Avenue East and Olive Way, I noticed something I hadn't noticed before: the sound of sizzling. In one corner, a taco stand had materialized overnight.

A whiteboard listed four taco options: al pastor (pork), asada (steak), campechano (chorizo and steak), and veggie (potato and cactus). They were \$2.50 each. What the hell, I was hungry. Sweet mother of Mary, they were some of the best tacos I'd ever had.

I've since taken lots of friends, and it's always a hit. Because there is no sign for

CARMELO'S TACOS
110 Summit Ave E
the restaurant that you can see while you eat, I started calling the place Rock 'n' Roll Tacos, after a sign advertising wine that hangs over the booze section of the store. It says, in small letters, "Washington Wine Is Soooo...." And then in huge letters: "Rock 'n' Roll."

It's a fitting nickname, because these tacos rock. First of all, the tortillas are made in-house. While you eat, you can watch as they prep the next batch: Scoops of masa get flattened, one by one, followed by 10 seconds on the grill. "We make sure that it's crispy. It should be crispy," Miguel Cruz, 33, said of the tortillas when I stopped in again the other day.

This time, I noticed a small "Carmelo's Tacos" sign above the register. When I asked if he was Carmelo, Cruz said, "Carmelo is my father." He said they get their masa delivered "early in the morning, and sometimes it's still warm, because they cooked the corn so recently. You can touch it, and it's like-wow, that's fresh."

Carmelo Gaspar, 60, worked for Cactus restaurants for 27 years as a prep cook. This is his first business. The whole family is helping. "The asada that we serve you guys is the same asada that we do at home."



JESSICA STEIN

Carmelo's Tacos make their own tortillas, seconds before they serve them to you.

Regarding the al pastor, Cruz said, "That recipe has about 15 different ingredients." The meat is marinated overnight in guajillo chilies, ancho chilies, chipotle chilies, cloves, and pineapple juice, and then it's served (like all tacos here) with a bright-orange salsa roja (tomatoes, guajillo chilies, chile de arbol, roasted garlic) and a salsa verde with avocado ("You don't get it every time, but when you get it, you get chunks of avocado"). Plus, of course, diced pineapple.

"That was my idea," Cruz said about ditching the pineapple. "When I go to Tacos Chukis"—right up the street—"you take one bite, and the whole thing comes out," referring to the one big slice of grilled pineapple Chukis gives you. "Or you have to take it with your fingers and break it up yourself. So why don't we just cut it up for you?"

Chukis doesn't make their own tortillas. Theirs are soft, uncrispy, and out of a bag.

When I asked about the cactus in the

veggie tacos, Cruz said, "The cactus? That's Mexico City." The family is from just south of there. The pickled veggies that come on the side of each plate of tacos are his auntie's recipe.

When I confessed to Cruz that I've been calling the place Rock 'n' Roll Tacos, he joked he was going to have to ask the mini-mart to take down that sign. Then he showed me pictures of the new Carmelo's Tacos sign they will be installing any day now. ■

Top Picks

SAT NOV 24

Trove and YWE Bake Sale and Brunch Pop-Up

"Bake sale" may conjure connotations of PTA functions and requisite Betty Crocker standards like blondies and cupcakes, but this bake sale and brunch pop-up from Rachel Yang and Seif Chirchi's Trove promises to be far more exciting, with freshly baked goods like a raspberry-glazed eclair topped with Froot Loops (yes, please), coffee, tiki cocktails, and a hot brunch. Better yet, 100 percent of proceeds from the bake sale will go to Young Women

Empowered, an organization that aims to empower young women with mentorship and programs.

(Trove, 10 am-1pm, \$9-16.) JULIANNE BELL

NOV 25-DEC 24

Miracle on 2nd

In 2014, Greg Boehm of New York bar Boilermaker temporarily transformed the space for his bar Mace into a kitschy Christmas wonderland replete with gewgaws and tchotchkes galore. Now the pop-up has expanded to bars in 50 cities worldwide and will be taking up residence in Belltown's Rob Roy. The specialty cocktails are no ordinary cups of cheer: Beverages are housed in tacky-tastic vessels (a drinking mug resembling Santa's mug, for example), bedecked with fanciful garnishes like peppers

and dried pineapple, and christened with irreverent, pop-culture-referencing names like the "Bad Santa," the "Yippie Ki Yay Mother F**r," and the "You'll Shoot Your Rye Out." (Rob Roy.) JULIANNE BELL

FRI NOV 30

Chef Collaboration Dinner: Linda Miller Nicholson and Emme Ribeiro Collins

You may know Linda Miller Nicholson better as "Salty Seattle," the wildly popular Instagrammer whose vibrant feed (with more than 200,000 followers) depicts handmade pasta created with a prismatic palette of plant dyes. For this dinner, she'll team up for a three-course collaborative

dinner with chef Emme Ribeiro Collins, a Mamnoon alum who's competed on *Cutthroat Kitchen* and *MasterChef*, and who now runs Alcove, a communal Afro-Brazilian-meets-Pacific-Northwest restaurant in the former space of her family's restaurant, Tempero do Brasil. Expect bright Brazilian flavors and some seriously brilliant Technicolor pasta. (Alcove Dining Room, 6:30-9:30 pm, \$85.) JULIANNE BELL

NOV 30-DEC 1

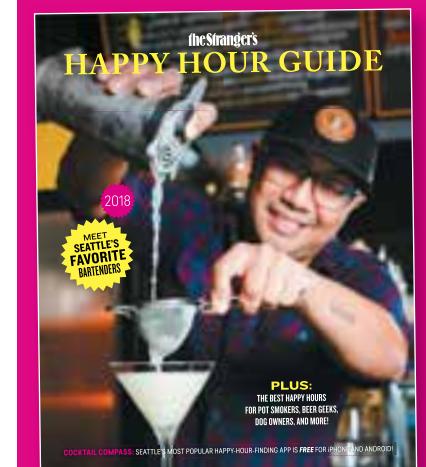
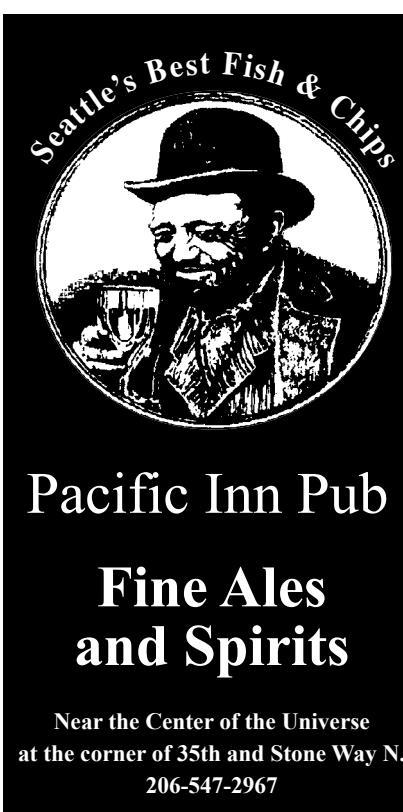
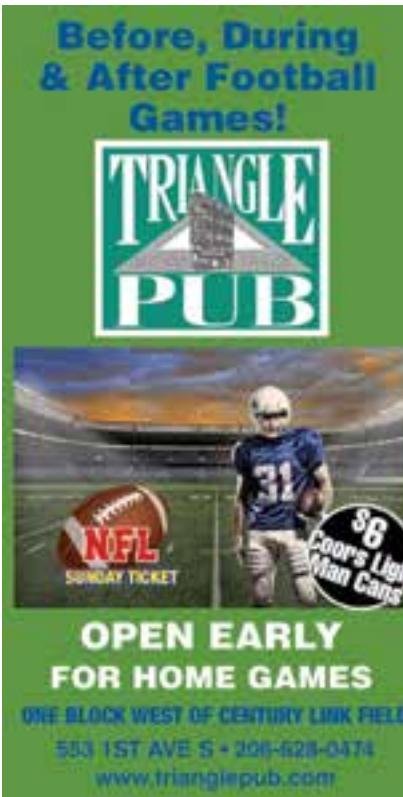
Winter Beer Festival

At this tasting event, you can try unique wintry sips—ranging from "dark malty stouts" to winter warmers to barrel-aged rarities and other hard-to-find seasonal wonders—from more than 50

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THINGS TO DO → Food & Drink



CLEMENTINE'S PHOTOGRAPHY

different Washington Brewers Guild member breweries. Local favorites like Aslan, Cloudburst, Standard, Stoup, Optimism, Lucky Envelope, Georgetown, and more will all be in attendance. Proceeds will benefit the guild. (*Magnuson Park Hangar 30*, \$35/\$40.) **JULIANNE BELL**

SAT DEC 1

'Cherry Bombe Issue #12' Celebration

Started by Kerry Diamond and Claudia Wu in 2013, the twice-yearly feminist food magazine *Cherry Bombe*, which has since expanded to encompass a cookbook and a podcast called *Radio Cherry Bombe*, aims to uplift women in the food industry. Christina Tosi, Ruth Reichl, Nigella Lawson, and Martha Stewart are just a few of the culinary icons who have graced its cover. Join the founders for the release of their 12th issue at Fremont's female-owned cookbook store Book Larder. Your ticket includes snacks, drinks, and a copy of the new issue. (*Book Larder*, 5:30-7 pm, \$30.) **JULIANNE BELL**

TUES DEC 4



Vermouth Dinner at Barnacle

Need an antidote to increasingly blustery autumn days? How about quaffing some fortified wine along with a four-course dinner at Barnacle, Renee Erickson's adorable little

"jewel box" aperitivo bar tucked away next door to the Walrus and the Carpenter? Sea Creatures executive chef Bobby Palmquist and Walrus and the Carpenter head chef BJ Bresnik will design a seasonal menu accompanied by vermouth cocktails from the Barnacle crew and vermouth pairings from Leith Shenstone of spirits and wine importer Fasel Shenstone. (*Barnacle*, 6-9 pm, \$75.) **JULIANNE BELL**

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350 First Ave W

Short List

Author Talk: Heritage Baking by Ellen King
Book Larder, Thurs Nov 29, 6:30 pm, free

PNW Crab Feast
Pike Place Market Atrium Kitchen, Fri Nov 23, Fri Nov 30, 11 am-1 pm, \$115

Thanksgiving Day Dinner Cruise
Waterways Cruises, Thurs Nov 22, 12 pm, 5 pm, \$99

Early Warnings

EGGNOG-OFF Brimmer & Heeltap, Thurs Dec 6, 6-11 pm, free

12TH ANNUAL COOKBOOK SOCIAL Palace Ballroom, Mon Dec 10, 5-7 pm, \$25

THE PANTRY WINTER/SPRING CLASSES The Pantry, Jan 1-March 31, \$75-\$300

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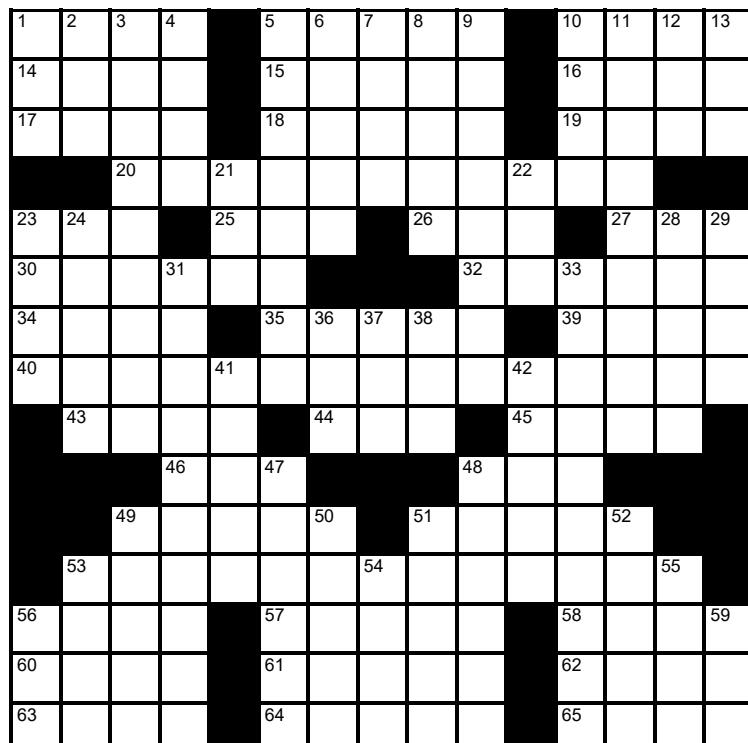


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ACROSS

- 1. Squeeze boxes?
- 5. Cheap super PAC attack
- 10. Kissing sound
- 14. Latin lover's flower
- 15. Chop in two
- 16. Canned fruit brand
- 17. Ice-cream brand
- 18. Drunk as a skunk
- 19. Tests in a tube, for short
- 20. Ignoramus
- 23. Durable wood
- 25. Obnoxious person
- 26. Democrat megadonor Steyer
- 27. Just ducky
- 30. Bullshitted
- 32. Mickey of Hollywood
- 34. Disney princess with a blonde braid
- 35. They're all true
- 39. Germ of an idea
- 40. Longtime wrestler's affliction
- 43. Length of time
- 44. "Check your ____ at the door"
- 45. Bothers
- 46. Chill
- 48. Bruins, on scoreboards
- 49. Casino machines
- 51. In its own gravy
- 53. Weakling's attribute
- 56. Hurt
- 57. "You can count on me"
- 58. Competes
- 60. Dog biter
- 61. Band-Aid rival
- 62. Impressive panache
- 63. Marries
- 64. Gives off
- 65. Scream
- 66. "You ____ a life saver"
- 67. Make some changes to, briefly
- 68. Fills with passion
- 69. Pageant band
- 70. Hotdogs
- 71. Hotel staff
- 72. "Vogue" rival
- 73. Turn away
- 74. War's steed, in the Apocalypse
- 75. Molly, chemically
- 76. Scrabble addict in a Stefan Fatsis book
- 77. Rah ____ (Nicki Minaj BFF)
- 78. Bros
- 79. Feed-bag morsel
- 80. You ____ a life saver"
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- 89. Molly, chemically
- 90. Scrabble addict in a Stefan Fatsis book
- 91. Rah ____ (Nicki Minaj BFF)
- 92. Bros
- 93. Feed-bag morsel

- 22. Moody punk or moody punk offshoot
- 23. He plays Donald on 59-Down
- 24. Deane of the Continental Congress
- 28. Michelle of US women's soccer
- 29. Some kings and queens
- 31. Tibetan spiritual leaders
- 33. Website's feedback, say
- 36. Amber colored drink
- 37. Gear's tooth
- 38. Snake eyes total
- 41. Disguised, for short
- 42. Spanish wine
- 47. Values
- 48. Constructs
- 49. Went undercover
- 50. Nail down
- 51. Attorney follower
- 52. "I'm taking a photo here!"
- 53. New client, so to speak
- 54. It goes round and round
- 55. Apply plumber's putty
- 56. Internet idealism to go along with a reaction pic
- 59. See 23-Down

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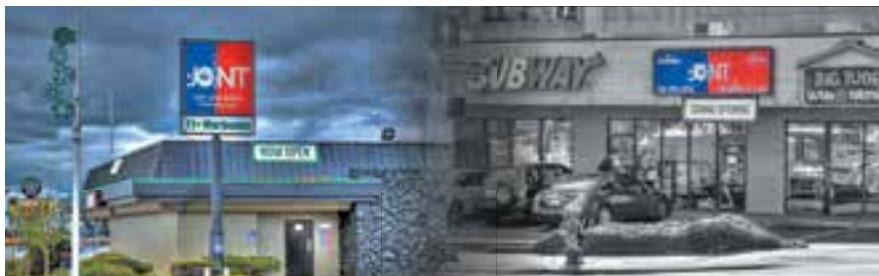
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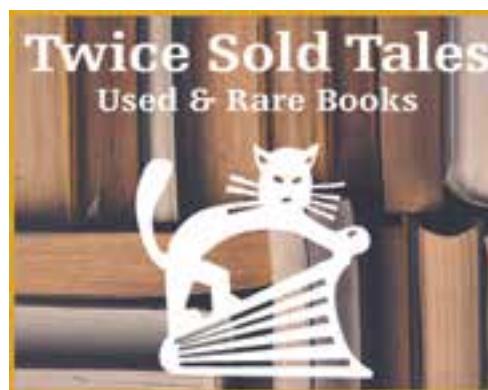
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